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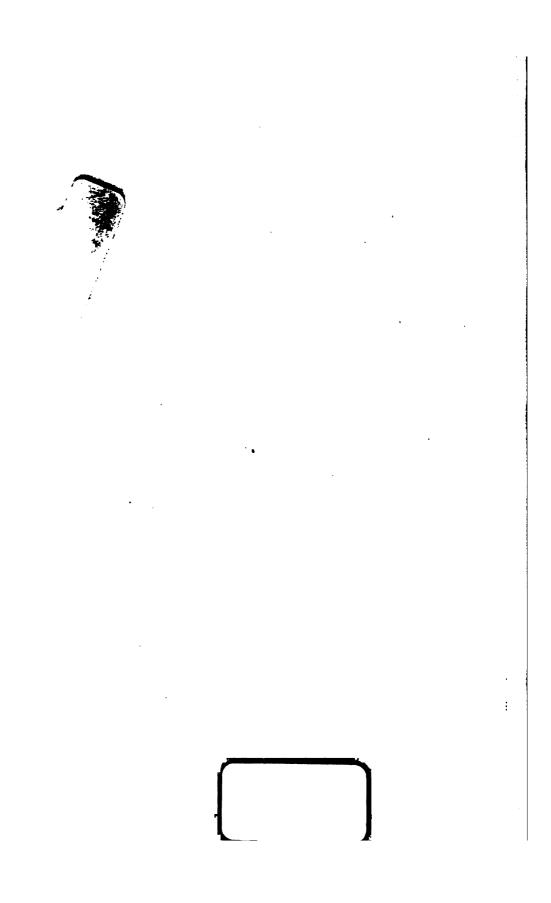
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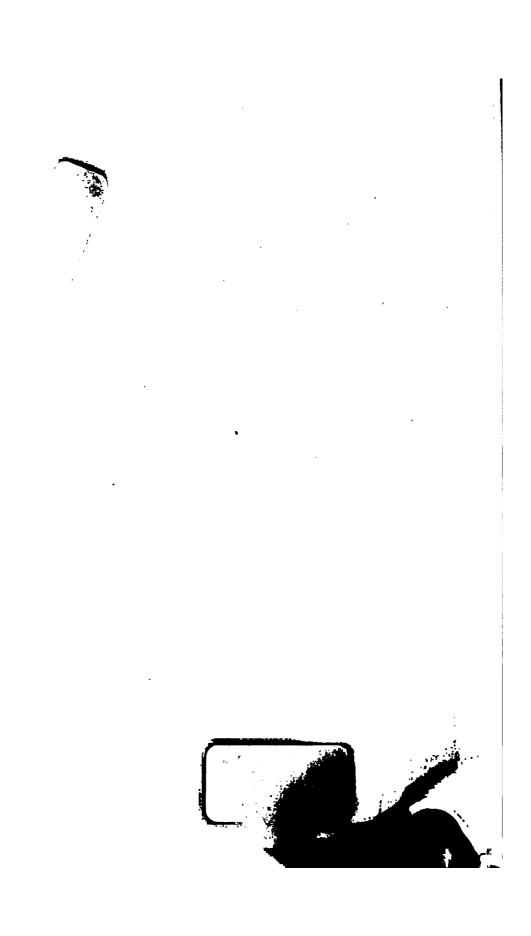
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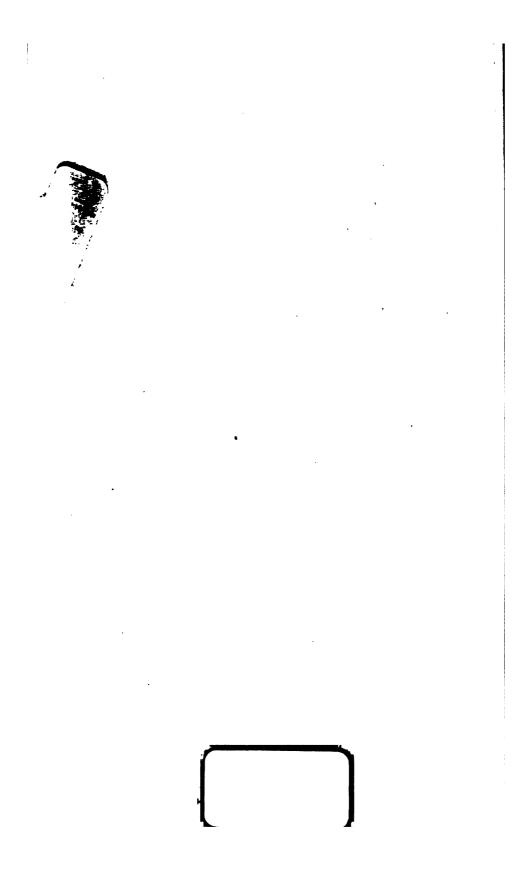










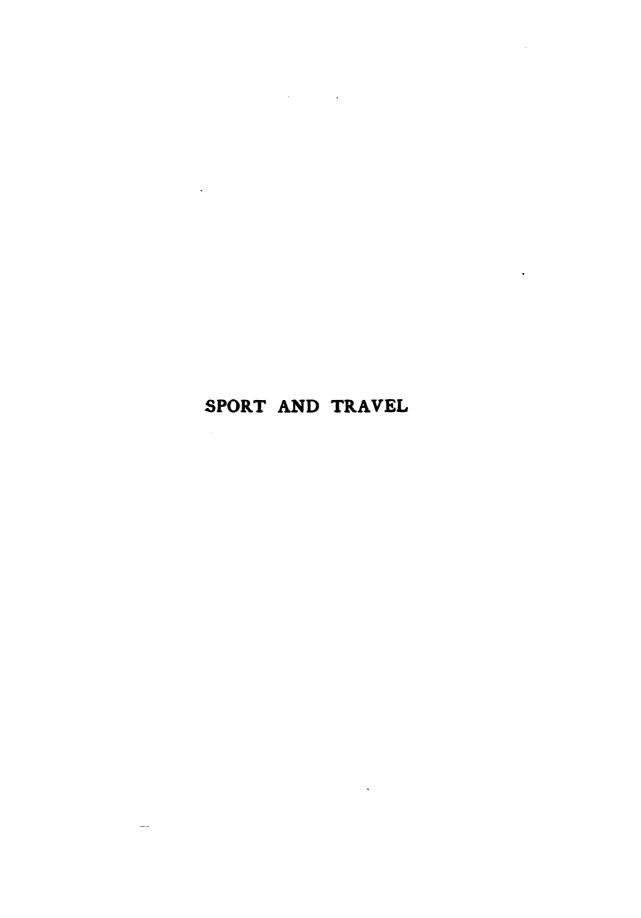




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## ABYSSINIA AND BRITISH EAST AURICA

LORD HINDLIP F.R.G.S., F.Z.S.

WITH 72 ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY LADY HINDLIP AND THE AUTHOR, AND TWO MAPS

LONDON

T. FISHER UNWIN ADELPHI TERRACE

1906

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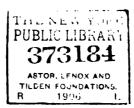
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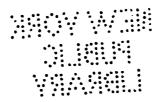
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### DEDICATED

TO

### MY WIFE

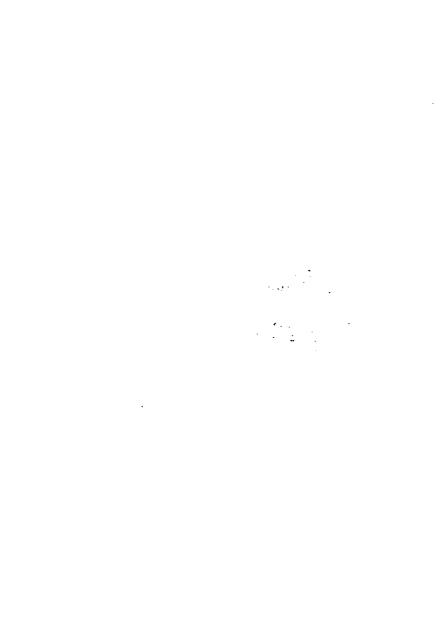
WHOSE GOOD SPIRITS WHEN THINGS WERE

UNCOMFORTABLE MADE MANY

DIFFICULTIES DISAPPEAR

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CROSSING A RIVER.

# Preface

In the following pages I have endeavoured to give some account of three journeys, undertaken mainly for the purposes of sport. That circumstances prevented my doing all I wished was unfortunate, but it was both in Abyssinia and in my first trip to East Africa a case of "L'homme propose, Dieu dispose." It is difficult in a book consisting of personal experiences to avoid being egotistical, and I hope that I have not erred too flagrantly in this respect.

My best thanks are due, firstly, to my companion, W. F. Whitehouse; to Col. (now Sir) J. L. Harrington, K.C.V.O., for the permission of King Menelik to travel in Abyssinia; to Capt. Duff, who helped me with a few notes on the construction of the British Agency, to Mr.

W. Malcolm Jones, His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Zeila, and to Mr. Gerolimato, His Majesty's Consul at Harrar.

Secondly, to Sir Charles Eliot, K.C.M.G., for several acts of kindness; to Mr. H. Hyde Baker for information; to Mr. F. W. Isaac for his companionship and most accurate information; to Mr. Bowring, Treasurer of British East Africa, for a loan of ammunition; and to Dr. Macdonald, Dr. and Mrs. Paget, Lieut. Archer, and Colour-Sergt. Ellison for several acts of hospitality.

Thirdly, to Lord and Lady Delamere, Messrs. Lawson and Isaac for kindness and hospitality; and last, but by no means least, to Mr. Sim, of Messrs. Smith Mackenzie, for his trouble and many kindnesses.

To the Royal Geographical Society, and Dr. Scott Keltie in particular, for permission to use the excellent maps made by Mr. Addison, to whom also my best thanks are due. To my publisher, Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, I beg to tender my best thanks for his courtesy and the trouble he has taken in the production of the volume.



ABYSSINIAN PRIESTS BEGGING AT BRITISH AGENCY.

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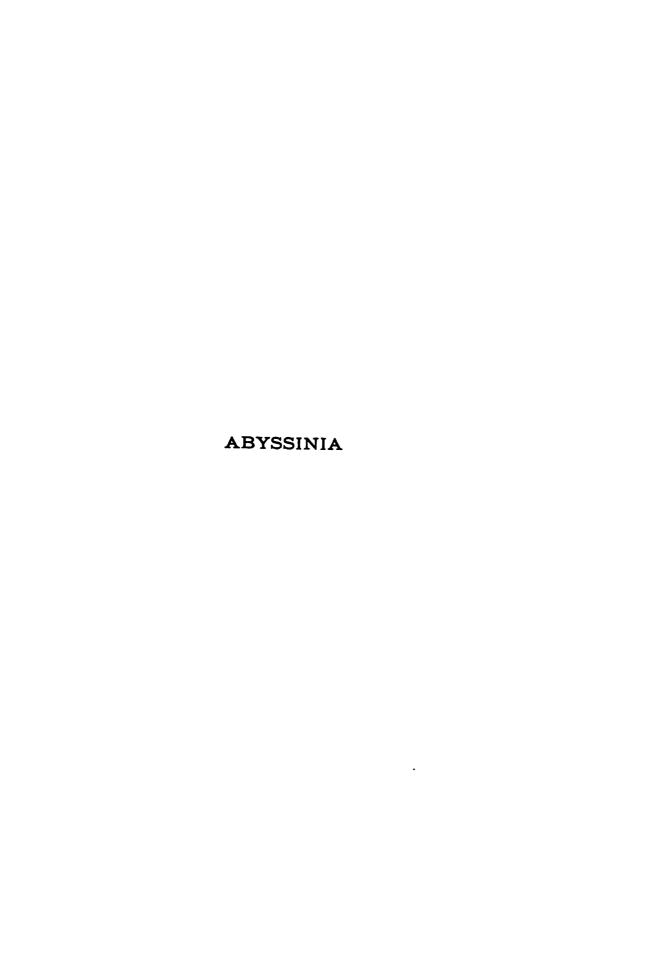
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### ABYSSINIA

### CHAPTER I

### LONDON TO ADIGALLA

Decision to visit Africa—Abyssinia not contemplated— Introduction to Colonel Harrington-Invitation to Adis Abeba-Proposed journey to the Sobat-Meeting with Mr. Whitehouse-We join forces-Departure from London-Join Whitehouse in Paris-Arrive at Marseilles-The Massilia-Meeting with Sir A. Pease-Arrival at Aden-We engage Jama Said-Hunt for the Residency-On board the Woodcock-Arrive at Zeila-Visit to the Vice-Consulate-Swearing in Somalis-Caravan starts for Adigalla-The rise of the Mad Mullah-His relations with the British Government-The Somali Protectorate-Police cases in Zeila-The French railway-Indisposition of Whitehouse-Sent to Djibouti for Dr. Bell-We leave Zeila -Arrive at Djibouti-Start for the Interior-We reach Adigalla-Camp at Adigalla-I go to Djibouti and return to Adigalla.

WHEN in 1901 I made up my mind to travel and shoot in Africa early in the following year

as circumstances would permit. I had no intention of entering Abyssinia, and I will at once say that from a sporting point of view I am sorry that I wasted my time, for Abyssinia proper is but a poor game country. Although the sport was not all that could be desired, I was enabled to gain some insight into the affairs of, and more experience of, travel in Menelik's country, which will always be useful. That I came to include Abyssinia in my travels was owing to the fact that at the very time I was making my plans for my first African trip I was introduced to Colonel (now Sir John) Harrington, British Minister to Abyssinia. Knowing that I was in search of sport, he very kindly invited me to visit him at the Abyssinian capital, and afterwards accompany him on a proposed journey from Adis Abeba to the Nile via the Sobat. was not unaware of the fact that many circumstances, political and otherwise, might prevent my host from carrying out the interesting journey proposed, and as I did not then care to travel alone, I availed myself of the opportunity of travelling with Mr. W. Fitzhugh Whitehouse, a young American friend, who was anxious to

revisit Abyssinia and also to cross to the Nile. Accordingly we joined forces. That we altered our original plans when we reached Adis, and that, when so close to Lake Rudolph as we afterwards were, we did not continue our journey southwards to the Uganda Railway, will be to me a lasting source of regret.

On February 5, 1902, I left Victoria, and after being mistaken at Smith's bookstall for one of their men, because I happened to be wearing a long blue coat and a yachting cap, and for the same reason hailed as a steward by an elderly lady on the Channel boat, and at the Gare de Lyon taken for a French railway official, also by an elderly female, who had evidently come up to Paris for the day for a round of shopping, I met my companion Whitehouse. The next day we reached Marseilles and embarked on the P. and O. Massilia, one of the oldest boats on the Bombay run. On board were Mr. (now Sir Alfred) and Mrs. A. E. Pease, who were going to Bombay, to add a few Indian specimens to his varied collection of African trophies. As he had been in Abyssinia the year before, he was able to tell me of a few difficulties of travel in that country.

Aden was reached without incident on February 16th, and the fact that we arrived at midnight did not add to my comfort, as I was suffering from the worst cold in my head I have ever experienced. We were met on board by Jama Said, who had been recommended to us by Sir J. Harrington, so we at once engaged him as headman, and an excellent fellow he proved himself to be. The next day was a busy one, for as soon as it was light we started engaging boys, collecting stores, which had been sent on ahead from London, and making the necessary arrangements for taking our dogs, three of which were going up-country with us. An incident which amused Whitehouse, but at which I was not greatly surprised, occurred while we were endeavouring to discover the Residency. Meeting a private of the R.A. in the street, I asked him if he would put us on the right way to Government House. He replied that he did not know where the Governor or Resident lived, and after a few questions

we discovered the curious fact that one of the soldiers of the garrison did not even know that Aden possessed a Governor or Resident.

The same evening found us on board the s.s. Woodcock, a comfortable boat of small dimensions, with a most obliging English skipper; a mate of unknown nationality, who talked almost every known lingo, and a mixed crew of Arabs, Somalis, &c., &c. We dropped anchor at 9 a.m. the next day at Zeila, where, owing to the shallow water and the impossibility of landing direct from boats, we had to be carried from the ship on chairs attached to long poles. Having deposited some of our traps at the Customs, we called on Mr. Malcolm Jones, H.M.'s Vice-Consul, who most kindly put us up in his house and allowed our boys and dogs to live in the old Residency.

On February 20th we swore in our Somalis, and on the following day started off our caravan in charge of Jama Said and a couple of sowars, with orders to wait for us at Adigalla, which was at that time the terminus of the Djibouti railway.

Zeila, an old native town, is a hot, sandy,

and very uninteresting place, whose inhabitants then consisted of the Consul, four or five Greeks or Armenians, a Parsee as clerk of Customs and general Government factotum, and some 2,000 Somalis; the force at the disposal of the Consul for offensive and defensive purposes being a handful of Soudanese police and some Somali sowars. While there we had to purchase water, which seemed somewhat curious, although water-rates are of course customary everywhere in towns. The drinking-water for the Residency is brought over in tanks by the weekly steamer from Aden, while that used by the natives comes from some wells four miles or so outside.

Just previous to our arrival in Somaliland the Mullah, Mohamed Abdullah, the so-called "Mad Mullah," had been raiding quite close to Berbera, and many were the stories we heard of his cruelty and of his methods of inducing waverers to join his ranks. Only five years ago the Mullah's following consisted of less than a dozen men, but not-withstanding many warnings, he was allowed to spread his propaganda without let or

hindrance, thus gaining many adherents. Probably one of the causes which tended to alienate the Somali from us and to make him join the Mullah has been our Abyssinian policy. Not only have we practically handed over to the tender mercies of Menelik's people the Ogaden Somali country, but we have also concluded an alliance with the Negus, whose countrymen have always been more or less at war with the Somalis; raiding their villages and flocks, while the wretched inhabitants (then without rifles) had no means of resisting their cruel oppressors. From the inception of his aggressive policy, the Mullah has had no difficulty in obtaining arms and ammunitions. These he obtained from several sources, i.e., Diibouti, where Gras rifles in good condition cost 13 francs in 1902, the Gulf of Tadjurah, Obock, and the Italian coast round Illig and Obbia. It is a notorious fact that all the way from Djibouti to Harrar nearly every storekeeper bought and sold rifles and ammunition at prices varying from 6 to 14 dollars. That the Mullah bought at

Dollar = roughly 2s.

a higher figure is probable, but that he could obtain as many as he could pay for is more than likely. Through the good offices of Italy, an agreement has been concluded with the Mullah, but how it will work out it is impossible to prophesy. It must, however, be remembered that the Mullah has not been "smashed," that his stock of rifles has only very slightly diminished, and it is hard to imagine what the Government has really To many who know Somaliaccomplished. land-certainly in my opinion-it looks as if Downing Street has, after the expenditure of much blood and treasure, admitted that the despised "Mad" Mullah is really master of the situation. There is much truth in the remark made to me by one of my Somalis, who said: "Our country only poor country; not got gold like South Africa: that's why Government leave it."

Prior to the campaigns against the Mullah, the Somali Protectorate at least paid its way and was not a charge on the Imperial Exchequer. Its exports were of a limited variety, consisting chiefly of skins (mostly



HOUSE ON DJIBOUTI RAILWAY.

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ASTOR, LEMOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS. goat), which I believe were shipped in the majority of cases to America for the manufacture of gloves; and a certain amount of coffee from Harrar. Its imports consisted of rice, ghee, dates, and "Americani" (a cotton cloth made, as its name suggests, in America). The sport obtainable in the country was an attraction for many sportsmen, who naturally spent considerable sums in the Protectorate.

But to return to Zeila: while I was there I often went into the police court with Mr. Jones, and occasionally an amusing case occurred. One day a huge Soudanese policeman appeared and applied for leave to beat a drum in his quarters; on being asked his reasons for wishing to disturb the peace of the community, he replied that his wife had a "devil" and he wished to "exorcise" it. As permission was given, we expected to have a very disturbed night, but were pleasantly surprised as the sound of the drum was absent. I never ascertained whether the devil fled or whether the wife died.

Another day a woman appeared, to claim some money from her late husband, who had divorced her; the man (an Arab if I remember rightly) said he had divorced her because the "Lord had told him to," but the lady got her money.

The French railway from Djibouti which has now reached Adis Harrar, and is connected with Harrar itself by a specially constructed road, had in 1902 diverted a very large proportion of the Abyssinian trade from Zeila and caused a considerable loss of revenue. On my return from East Africa in July, 1903, two merchants in Djibouti told me that the railway authorities, thinking they had captured the trade, had raised the rates, with the result that a part of the traffic had returned to the Zeila camel route. Whether this was true or not I cannot tell, but in July, 1903, there was only one hotel in Djibouti, as against two in the previous year, and the whole place seemed more dead than alive.

The day after our caravan left, Whitehouse became ill, and as we were obliged to go to Djibouti to pick up some stores and dogs which had been sent after us, we sent a runner there with a note to an English doctor, Dr. Bell, who happened to be in the place, asking him to come over. He did so, and afterwards accompanied us on the trip. While waiting for Whitehouse to get fit I tried to get what fun I could out of Zeila.

One day I took the dogs and Dr. Bell's pony, and tried to course some jackals outside the town, but the only result was that I returned to the Residency, after dark, on foot, one dog on my back, another on the saddle, and the third reluctantly following behind. I had not caught jack, however, and on the following day one of my dogs died, apparently from an internal abscess.

On March 2nd we bade farewell to Mr. Jones, on whose hospitality we had trespassed so long, and sailed for Djibouti in a native "buggallo," taking some five hours to perform the journey of less than thirty miles.

By far the best house in Djibouti was that of the Governor, on whom we called immediately on our arrival. Unfortunately, an Englishman only a week or two before had visited him while in a state of intoxication, had managed to make himself thoroughly

obnoxious to every one in the town, and we found that the impression he had left had not quite worn off.

On March 5th we started at 7.30 a.m. by train for Adigalla, where we arrived ten hours later. The whole route from Djibouti to Adigalla is 207 kilos in length, of which 90 are in French territory. The line passes through a most uninteresting country, sandy, bare, and hot. The only wild animals to be seen were a few jackals and a small herd of gazelle. these last were espied some 400 yards from the line, an Italian in the train started shooting at the animals. The engine-driver, for the moment forgetting his occupation, joined in the fun, which some Abyssinians also tried; but without any result. On no part of the line were the gradients very steep, the worst, I was told, being only two centimetres in a metre. In places the track was well drained and ballasted, and the steel bridges were thoroughly modern. The engines, however, were sadly in want of repair; during every journey nuts had to be tightened, and frequently when drawing heavy loads the engine

would refuse an incline, and had to retire for another "go."

The white employés on the line were a particularly "hard crowd," paying little or no attention to the burning sun, and receiving, I believe, but poor pay.

That the railway will pay under present conditions is, I think, very doubtful; however, when the natural resources of Abyssinia are developed, its future ought to be assured, but under the present rule development of the country cannot take place.

I was told that all Menelik's imports and exports, the former consisting chiefly of arms and ammunition, and the latter of ivory, were carried free of charge.

That the large quantities of ivory which I saw at the stations in trucks and in caravans between Adigalla and Gildessa were obtained wholly in Abyssinia is more than doubtful; tusks were to be seen which could only have come from the region of Lake Rudolph, or the Nile, and could only have been obtained by his raiding parties.

At Adigalla we found our caravan and

pitched camp. We stayed for five days waiting for the next boat from Aden, and endeavouring to buy ponies, of which we only succeeded in getting two, together with an excellent mule.

On March 13th I returned to Djibouti, leaving Whitehouse and Bell, who had arrived from the coast on the previous day, to go on to Harrar to call on Ras Makonnen, the Governor, and the British Consul, Mr. Gerolimato, so as to ascertain if permission had arrived from Menelik for us to travel through the Danakil country.

On the third day after my return to Djibouti the steamer *Benger*, belonging to the railway, arrived with the expected dogs and some stores, and next day I was able to restart for Adigalla. THE NEW YOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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GURGURKA TRIBESMEN.

## CHAPTER II

## ADIGALLA TO BILEN

I strike camp and start for Gildessa—Visit from the Choum
—Gildessa—Whitehouse and Bell return from Harrar
—We telephone to the capital—We visit the Choum's
house—Arrival of the British Consul—An evening's
shoot—Start from Gildessa—Trouble with the dogs—
Enter the Gurgurra country—Arrival at Errer River—
Negotiations with Tumbacho—Physicking Tumbacho—The Greek's camp—Tumbacho and Menelik
—The Danakil and his child—Doctoring the people—
Tarantula camp—A jackal hunt—Arrival at Darbita—
A successful oryx hunt—A tropical storm—Crossing a
torrent—An unpleasant experience—An invasion of
insects—Arrival at Bilen—Suffering of the shikaris—
The buffalo swamp.

AFTER a hurried meal at Adigalla I struck camp, and at eight o'clock the same evening started for Gildessa with four boys, two camelmen, three camels, and a mule. One dog had bolted during the operation of striking camp,

and never returned. It was a fine moonlight night, and I kept on the march till midnight, when I camped by a well. Six-thirty next morning found us again on the tramp, and when we stopped for the night we had done eight and a half hours' march. Ten hours on the next day was sufficient to land me at our camp at Gildessa with my mule, two boys, and part of a small gerenuk I had shot on the march, the camels turning up next morning with the dogs, who were very footsore. found Whitehouse and Bell had left for Harrar. taking with them all the open stores, &c., and as I had nothing with me and no keys, my dinner that night consisted of a couple of biscuits and some Somali dates. As a shakedown for the night Jama rigged me up a bed with some store boxes and a couple of "boys" blankets.

Gildessa is a hot and uninteresting spot; its sole importance being that it is an Abyssinian frontier post at the junction of the trade routes from Harrar and the desert track from Adis Abeba to the railway and Zeila. The day after my arrival I rested, and on the following morning went out on the hills to look for

koodoo, but after a hot and tiring climb only saw a female. In the evening the local governor, or Choum, came to call on me at my camp, and was very friendly and civil. He was not so intelligent in appearance as many of the Abyssinians, and had by no means a prepossessing countenance. I gave him a half-and-half whiskey and sparklet, which he relished, and, before leaving, he presented me with a fine goat, which provided me with meat the next day.

On the evening of March 22nd, three days after my arrival at Gildessa, Whitehouse and Bell returned from Harrar, having had to telephone from there to Col. Harrington at the capital for permission to proceed. On the 24th we called on the Choum and made him a present of a watch. He received us in his official residence, a small circular hut with the usual pointed roof, built on a conical hill. His furniture consisted of a table, chair, two beds, a photograph of an Abyssinian priest, and a coloured Crucifixion, while his rifle, shield, and revolver were hung on the walls. Like most of his race, he had evidently a partiality for

strong waters, as empty absinthe, whiskey, and vermouth bottles were scattered about, testifying to the nationalities of different travellers who had passed through. He entertained us by giving us hydromel, a liquor made of honey, sometimes very strong, but, to my taste, most unpalatable.

Next day Mr. Gerolimato, the British Consul, arrived from Harrar on his way to Europe, and brought us leave to move on. lunching with us he was soon busily employed in settling native disputes and local questions which were referred to him. He seemed to have great influence with the people, and to have the faculty of satisfying all comers. the evening we did a little shooting, Bell securing a very good dik-dik, while I also got a specimen, and Whitehouse brought down a large jackal. On March 26th we left Gildessa at 6 a.m., and camped by water after a five hours' march. We experienced great difficulty with the dogs, two of which had to be carried on camels and on our saddles. In the evening Whitehouse and I each bagged a gerenuk, or Waller's gazelle.

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ODERALI MOVING A VILLAGE.

The next day, starting at 4.45, we marched for five hours through a dry country with thorn bushes. During the day Bell shot two gerenuk, and Whitehouse a gerenuk and a klipspringer.

A rather shorter march on the 28th, through an uninteresting, gameless country with hills on both sides of the valley, brought us to camp, where, during the night, Whitehouse fired at what he thought was a hyena, which had been prowling round early in the night, but which subsequently proved to be one of our dogs, which luckily remained unhurt.

After two more short marches we entered the country whose inhabitants had the reputation of being treacherous. As a measure of precaution we formed a zareba round our camp, but it proved to be unnecessary, as on the two occasions on which we passed through their territory we found the Gurgurra people perfectly friendly. A gerenuk to Whitehouse, a dik-dik to myself, and a few sand-grouse were the only result of the last two days.

March 31st brought us to the river Errer, where we made a very pleasant camp under

some shady trees, and stayed a couple of days while we arranged for a supply of camels from Tumbacho, chief of the Oderali, a section of the Danakils, who live south of the Errer. In this district we found plenty of guineafowl and some dik-dik, but nothing more.

Following day crossed the river and proceeded to a small hill named Erregota, a camel-changing station and load-depositing post for caravans. Tumbacho, a villainouslooking scoundrel with a sinister reputation, soon appeared on the scene, and after some palaver and presents we obtained the necessary camels. The chief complained of a pain in his stomach, for which he told us a French doctor had blistered him. Bell suggested that he had appendicitis, and as he insisted on being physicked, we cauterised the patient and gave him a couple of blue pills. After this followed more palaver, in which we received great assistance from a Greek whom we had come across a day or two previously. He appeared to be in Menelik's service, for he had a large camp and about one hundred Abyssinian soldiers. In his camp I noticed several wheels for field-gun carriages, but I could not see any guns.

Tumbacho's tribe had been at war with Menelik both during and after the Italian war, and had been defeated after hard fighting. According to current account the people had been treated with abominable cruelty. When I was in Aden, nearly two years after my first meeting with Tumbacho, I heard he had been captured by Menelik and imprisoned soon after I left Abyssinia. Anyhow, he was a bad lot, and was continually holding up caravans.

After settling with Tumbacho we marched for about an hour and a half, carrying with us two days' water, and had only just pitched camp when the rain, as is often the case when unnecessary, came down in torrents, and continued all night. Next day it was too wet to march till the afternoon, and we were then only able to go a short distance, the next water being too far off.

An early start, but not a long march, on April 4th, brought all of us except myself into camp by ten. I had been on a long and unsuccessful hunt after a gerenuk, and I did not reach camp till two. On the track I met a Danakil, who told me that he had a sick child, about whom he appeared very anxious. If the white men could cure it, he said, he would give us anything he had, even his wife. I told him to bring the child to camp, and this he did, having ridden for over twenty miles on a camel to catch us up; but we were unable to be of the least use, as the boy proved to be an idiot.

In the evening our guide brought in a lady, whom he introduced as his sister. She was suffering from a bad eye, which we were asked to treat. We performed the necessary washing, and in return her people presented us with about two gallons of fresh milk, which was very acceptable, as our milking herd consisted of one goat, which was sick!

Next day, on the march, we had a great hunt after a jackal with two of the dogs, and if they had only tackled it with a will we should have got the jack, but unfortunately they only rolled him over. Bell took two "purlers," one into a dry river-bed with steep banks, and the second time his saddle slipped round, but without doing any harm. Soon after this I bagged a gerenuk, then down came rain in torrents for a couple of hours, and each of us arrived in camp soaked through, my spoil being an aoul, or Soemmering's gazelle, while Whitehouse had a female aoul with a very good head.

In the afternoon Bell shot a hyena and Whitehouse a golla waraba, or a smaller species of hyæna. That night it rained again. Our tents were flooded; our camelmats and loads soaked, and we had to stay in camp all day. At night more rain fell, but next day we were able to make a move just before eight, and did a good march, each getting a Walleri. Our camp on this occasion, though shady and pleasant, was evidently a favourite resort for tarantulas, as Whitehouse killed two and my tent boy, Abdi Karin, one.

An early start on the 8th, and a four and a half hours' march, brought us to Darbita. Near the track we got a view of an oryx, after which Bell went in pursuit, but without

In the afternoon I went out to try for an oryx, and an hour or so after leaving camp saw a small herd of eight or nine. A long crawl brought me to within 100 yards of a bull, which rolled over to the first shot. About 170 vards off some more of the herd appeared, and I fired at the first, which proved to be a female, and wounded her, whereupon she and the others immediately disappeared behind a small hill. We "hallaled" the bull, and then, leaving my second shikari to cut him up, started off with Osman Ali, my first shikari, in pursuit of the second oryx. For some time we could find no trace of it, and had almost given up the chase, when, coming round a shoulder of the hill, we saw the animal lying dead quite close to where I had first fired at it. was a big-bodied beast, with a fair head-33 inches. This was one of the only occasions when my 303, with Mauser action, proved powerful enough for the larger African antelopes. I had previously used it in Scotland for four seasons with great success, never having lost a stag hit in the body.

When we had finished skinning the heads of the two oryx and cut off as much meat as we could carry, we started for camp, when almost directly it began to rain very heavily and quickly got very dark, as is the case in these climates. In a few minutes it was coming down in buckets, and turned bitterly cold, and, as I had no coat on, it struck through my shirt like ice. Water was pouring down the sides of the hills, and it was with great difficulty that we kept on our feet and reached the level plain below, where the water was over my boots. Soon we came to a "nullah," which a week or so before had probably been dry, but it was now, owing to the heavy rains of the last few days, over six feet deep in the middle and some fifteen feet wide, with a current running like a mill-race. Osman got across the current, being carried two or three yards down stream, and then we somehow managed to pass the rifles, heads, and meat over. After that Mohammed Arden, my second shikari, got over, and then came my turn. I found this no easy task. First, to act as

a sort of guide-rope, I made the boys knot their turbans together and throw one end over to me. Then I tried to wade, but was swept off my feet in a moment. I kept a tight hold on the turban cloths, by which I was hauled across. Horribly cold, and with teeth chattering like a pair of castanets, I waited while we collected our traps and prepared to trudge on. Osman went first with one rifle and a head, I came next with the second rifle, while Mohammed brought up the rear with the other head and some meat. It was pitch dark, and it was only the weird lightning flashes which lit up the country every now and then that enabled us occasionally to get our bearings to a small extent. At last, when beginning to despair of finding camp, we saw a light, and got in about 8.30, where some whiskey and food and dry clothes were most welcome. I found that Whitehouse and Bell had both wounded an oryx, but failed to secure them.

The next day was far too wet for camels, as the whole country was like a sponge. Fortunately, our camp was on a small rocky

hill, and so quite dry. Whitehouse and I, both feeling rather sleepy after a hard day, did not leave camp in the morning, but Bell started off fairly early, and was back about midday with a bull oryx. After lunch Whitehouse and I both went out to try for either the oryx or zebra, whose tracks had been seen. Whitehouse was more successful this time, for he killed a good male oryx (342) and a female, while I got up to a herd, intending to kill a male, but as the only animal I could get a fair chance of was a female I had to be content. This was about the only camp on the trip where we had to waste much meat. Killing for the sake of killing has no charm for me, and shooting a species of animal when I have what specimens I want is a form of sport I have never indulged in, except when I have been in absolute need of meat. However, as we only saw oryx on three other occasions, and only killed one more, the two days do not lie very heavily on my conscience.

Next day, after another wet night, we marched for a couple of hours, reaching a

river which was in flood and too high for the camels to cross. However, in little more than four hours the river fell 18 inches, and we succeeded in crossing in about threequarters of an hour, putting in another three hours' march, and camping for the night in a large open plain, over which we had to carry water. On the march Bell saw, and unsuccessfully tried to get, some ostriches, while I bagged an aoul quite close to camp.

At dinner we were invaded by myriads of harmless flying insects of all shapes and sizes, many with hard shell-like bodies, who insisted on committing suicide in the candles, soup, cocoa, and everywhere they could.

It was nearly seven the following morning when we moved off. On the plain on either side of the track were several large herds of aoul and a few gerenuk. Bell went after the former, and a little way further on I ran into a couple of good aoul, which I wounded and eventually bagged, after putting in some very bad shooting. Soon after noon we arrived at Bilen, the site of a large buffalo swamp, where we hoped to get some sport. Three hours

later Bell turned up, having killed two very moderate aoul. He had been delayed by the fact that he had found Darod Nur (Whitehouse's first shikari) lying almost unconscious in the road from a touch of sun. Since leaving Gildessa several of our boys had had touches of fever, two of them having temperatures up to 104 on two or three occasions. My second shikari, too, had a small abscess in his foot which had to be opened, and his yells and screams made him the butt of the camp for several days.

After lunch we set out in different directions to reconnoitre the swamp and see what buffalo tracks were to be found, and what chance there was of getting at them. At the westerly end we found a certain number of tracks, but none were very fresh, and I saw no way of circumventing the animals.

## CHAPTER III

## BILEN TO THE CAPITAL

Boiling springs—An enervating bath—A leopard in camp -An exciting oryx hunt-Arrival at the Hawash River -A hunting Galla party-Arrival at Tadechimulcha-The telephone to the capital—A motley crowd—Our appearance causes some commotion-Meeting with Ras Makonnen-Mannabella-Arrival at Balghi-We discharge our camels and procure mules and donkeys -- Camp at Du Battu -- Arrival at Adis Abeba--Reception at the British Residency - Description of Menelik's capital—The British Residency—The trade of the capital-Indian ascendancy-Telegraph and telephone-Prospects of the railway-Polo-A round of calls-Life in Adis Abeba-Return of the Lake Zuai party—We alter our plans—Reception by the Emperor — MacKelvie, an interesting personality — Our present to Menelik-Ask permission to travel towards Rudolph-Invitation to a royal feast-The royal breakfast.

NEXT morning we went over to some hot springs, which were contained in a large pool,

about thirty yards across, of almost boiling water. A stream ran out from this, but for some distance it was too hot to bathe in. springs must have been strongly impregnated with sulphur, as the fumes were perceptible, and we all felt extremely weak after our bath. After a little rest we again searched the buffalo swamp, but without seeing anything to induce us to stop. I had had no experience at all of African hunting, and as we were anxious to get to Adis Abeba and Whitehouse was disinclined to wait at the swamps, we decided to move on next day. I now think that if we had sat down quietly for a few days and found out where the buffalo fed during the night, we could have got one or two in the early morning. During the night, which was very wet, the dogs, who for some time had been barking and growling, suddenly rushed out of . camp, and in the morning one had disappeared, having been probably carried off by a leopard.

April 14th again found us late in starting owing to rain in the night. During the march I saw the head of a hyena in some grass about thirty yards off, and a lucky shot got it in the

eye, smashing one side of the skull badly, but not damaging the jaw. We camped by some rain water, and in the afternoon I shot a nice aoul.

Soon after leaving camp the next day, Bell fired at and wounded a bull oryx, after which our four dogs went in pursuit. I got a shot with the 303 into his ribs, and then saw Warsama, our cook, who had armed himself with a spear, seize a spare pony and gallop after the animal. I also got my pony and gave chase, and Warsama, taking an imperial toss into a bush, I soon came up with the beast. A bullet from my long '38 Colt (unfortunately with a short cartridge) had no effect, and the dogs bayed him in a bush, when Bell, hurrying up with his rifle, put an end to the wounded animal. When we skinned the oryx we found that my revolver bullet, which had hit him fair on the shoulder, had not even penetrated the skin. The skin on the neck and shoulders of these animals, whose hide is remarkably tough and thick, is used largely for Somali Their long straight horns form a most formidable weapon of defence, and many

a Somali has been killed by them when riding them down or administering the coup de grâce. Our camp that day was pitched on the north bank of the Hawash which was too high to cross. A bustard and a wild duck shot near the bank made a change in our menu. Game appeared to be absent, but we saw some very old rhino tracks and some fairly fresh ones of hippo.

Next morning we found a fordable place lower down the river, and after crossing without much difficulty, marched on till midday camping near to fair-sized villages under some shady trees. The neighbourhood of the camp was the first track of pretty country we had touched. There was some timber and a small stretch of forest, where I saw some waterbuck.

On April 17th we started off fairly early in order to reach a swamp and hot springs, where we heard there was some game. Our track led through a strip of forest, where I was fortunate in bagging an Abyssinian bushbuck (a fairly rare animal), and also along the shores of a picturesque river. On emerging from the

timber we suddenly came on a party of mounted hunting Gallas, who on catching sight of us immediately galloped off and disappeared in a moment in some very long grass. Our guides shouted after them and soon they returned, looking very scared. They had taken us for Abyssinians, who I believe treat these harmless people in a very offhand manner. This party was badly mounted, and did not look as sportsmanlike as some of their kindred whom Whitehouse had met before. They were each armed with a throwing spear and a stabbing spear; and parts of the animals they had killed were hung round the necks of their ponies. We tried to persuade them to go after some aoul which were in sight, but they were unwilling to do so, as they said the aoul were too fast for them.

We went on some little way, but seeing no sign of game and noticing that the country seemed more or less populated, returned to the point where we had crossed the Hawash, and regaled ourselves on my bushbuck, reaching camp about 5 p.m. Bell told me that he had seen a wart-hog near the previous evening,

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ABVSSINIAN HUTS AT BALGHI,

so I went out to look for it. Almost directly I started out I met a hyena at which I fired, and broke a shoulder. The beast, however, bolted into some very thick bush and I followed till dark, when we were forced to return and give him up.

Early on the following morning I started to look for my wounded beast, leaving White-house and Bell to take the caravan on. I had no luck, however, and soon gave it up, reaching camp about midday and finding Bell and Whitehouse had each shot a waterbuck; and Whitehouse also killed a lesser koodoo in the afternoon, whose marrow was quite excellent.

A five and a half hours' march on the 19th brought us to Tadechimulcha, where our track from Errer joins the main trade and caravan route to Harrar, along which runs the telegraph from Harrar to Adis Abeba. This meant the end of any game country for some considerable distance. That we had not had better sport in the Danakil country through which we had come, was due to the fact that we had chosen the wrong time of year, and

the game had left. I fear, too, the Abyssinians had driven most of it away, but still I think if we had waited at one or two places and gone down the Hawash for a short distance we should have had some sport.

Leaving Tadechimulcha early on the morning of April 20th, and after marching over slightly ascending ground for six hours, we arrived at noon at Chobe, a place some 5,000 feet above sea-level, where there is a customs-house and telephone station on the line to the capital. Here we telephoned on to Balghi (two days ahead) to ask the Choum to have mules ready for us, and also rang up Colonel Harrington to let him know where we were. There we saw the first traces of cultivation in the shape of a few patches of mealies, which had been grown by Leaving Tadechimulcha before the Gallas. six next morning, we marched between thorn bushes over a very rough and stony track. We had not gone very far when we met an enormous crowd of men and women, soldiers, slaves, and children, together with mules and donkeys, all hurrying along the

narrow road. Every one was laden with some article of their household utensils and supplies. Each individual smelt worse than his or her predecessor of red pepper and a mixture of ghee and filth with which Abyssinians smear themselves, until we were nearly driven off the track. Almost every male carried a rifle, chiefly the Gras, but we also saw some old type of Italian Vetterly, a couple of Winchesters and Martinis, and Remingtons by the dozen. Our appearance caused some excitement, and our camels occasioned considerable confusion among the Abyssinian mules, which were frightened of them. In the excitement one Abyssinian fell off his mule, and slightly hurt his head; a woman was knocked down and trampled on, but practically unhurt, and a child who spread out its arms and attempted to fly off a mule, found that the laws of gravity were too strong for its feeble attempt at aërial navigation, and came down to earth with a bump. For some time we could not imagine what this endless string of people meant. Presently we came on a body of higher-class

Abyssinians clad in red and white Shamas and soft black hats, some riding and some walking, and then we knew it was some big chief. As we drew our ponies up on one side to let them pass, an Abyssinian interpreter came up to us, and asking if we spoke French, told us that the chief, whom he pointed out to us, was Ras Makonnen, and asked us where we were going. The Ras was now alongside, so we took off our hats, and Makonnen, as he returned our salutation, entered into conversation with us. In reply to his inquiry we told him we were going to Adis Abeba, adding that we had called on him at Harrar, and were sorry to have missed him in his own dominions. wished us good day and a pleasant journey, whereupon we again saluted, and proceeded on our respective roads. Ras Makonnen seemed to be of slightly over medium height, spare build, aged about forty or forty-five, and with a keen face.

After passing the remainder of this evilsmelling army, who probably included not only the Ras's retinue, but many who had taken advantage of his travelling to Harrar to go under his protection, we continued our march and camped at Mannabella.

Leaving Mannabella at six the next day, we reached the top of Balghi Hill shortly before midday, our camels coming in an hour later.

Balghi is a small collection of conical huts, some of wattle and some of mud, built on a high cliff, precipitous on three sides, jutting out from a long range of high hills, which form part of the eastern boundary of the high plateau of Abyssinia proper. To a hostile force advancing on Adis Abeba from Harrar this range would be a most formidable obstacle, but could probably be turned from the east. It is an outpost, and protected from the south or level side by a high wall, which, however, is now half in ruins at several places.

Here the camel caravans from the Desert route unload and reload on to mules, as the nights on the high plateau are too cold for the camels. In the afternoon we paid off our hired camels, procured some mules and Nagadis to take us to Adis Abeba, and bought three donkeys averaging eight and a half dollars apiece, leaving my shikari Osman to make arrangements to purchase some more.

That night between 8.30 and 9.0 there was a total eclipse of the moon, which our Somalis said was a sign that a great chief was dead.

On April 23rd we were occupied all morning arranging our loads for the mules, and did not get away till half-past three, and at six the same evening camped at Du Battu. 3 p.m. on May 2nd we reached the British Residency at Adis Abeba, where Colonel Harrington gave us a warm welcome and a capital lunch. He also told us that owing to Ras Makonnen having been invited to King Edward's coronation, his proposed trip to the Nile had to be postponed, owing to his being obliged to accompany the Ras to London. He further informed us that Captain A. Duff, the Vice-Consul, with Dr. Wakeman, the British Medical Officer, were away shooting at Lake Zuai. The Abyssinian capital has been described before by readier pens than mine, so I will not weary the reader by useless repetition. As a matter of fact there is little to add, and by the



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POLO PONIES.

time this book is published many alterations have no doubt been made. The squalor of native African towns and villages is apparent everywhere, while the indescribable fascination which is so seldom absent from cities of the East, is wanting altogether. Menelik's capital is nothing but a collection of huts, wattle, mud, and wood, built on a number of small hills in a basin surrounded on nearly three sides by mountainous country. Here and there are a very few houses belonging to European traders, but the only buildings of any importance in the place are the Emperor's Palace, known as the Gibi, and the Italian and British Agencies. The distances between these are considerable. and to go from one to another after dark is a journey not lightly to be undertaken, and accompanied by more risk to personal comfort and even to limb than is pleasant.

The main building of the British Legation is formed of eight conical-shaped tukels joined by passages which form three sides of a square, and contains pantry, dining-room, reception-room, entrance hall, office (or chancery, as it is termed in a legation, I believe), Colonel Harring-

ton's bedroom, bath-room, and dressing-room. The walls are made of wattle and daub, and the roofs of cedar-wood sticks, tied together and thatched with grass, the latter being very neatly done, and quite waterproof. tukels are practically nothing else than mud huts, but when prepared, painted, and furnished, present a very comfortable appearance. outsides of the houses are whitewashed, and there is in front of the house a fenced-in garden containing small flower beds, and the whole appearance of the Legation contrasts very much in the way it is kept with everything else I saw in the country. The fourth side of the square is formed by a big tukel, but unattached to the other, where Captain Duff, the Vice-Consul, lived. The outer buildings consist of Dr. Wakeman's (the medical officer) and Mr. Beru's (the interpreter) tukels, besides the dispensary, kitchen, and carpenter's shop. The Somalis and store tukels are in the main compound, a mud wall dividing them from the Abyssinian servants' quarters, which are behind these again. On the left of the main compound, but enclosed in the same big brushwood fence

that surrounds the whole Agency compound, but sub-divided by mud walls, is the kitchen garden, paddock, and stables; the stable compound consisting of a long row of airy stalls with a box at each end, besides hospital, harness, cow, and dogs' tukels. In the stable compound also are the quarters of the escort, consisting of two tukels and their kitchen; and fenced off from them, but in the same compound, are the Abyssinian syces' quarters, numbering nine small tukels.

The trade in the capital used to be chiefly in the hands of Frenchmen, who occupied most of the stores, but lately the Indian has come to the front, and most of the trade is now carried on by them. They hold the greater portion of the very small sum of ready money to be found in the town, and they have erected most of the buildings, including the Gibi.

Adis Abeba is connected by telegraph with Harrar and Massowah, and by telephone with Balghi and Chobe. Should the railway be continued from Adigalla up to Adis, or even to Balghi, it will tap a very fertile country, but until a more settled form of government exists than at present, the shareholders would see little if any return for the outlay.

The morning after our arrival we turned out early, and Colonel Harrington, Whitehouse and I, together with Mr. Beru and three Sowars of the escort of Bengal Lancers, rode up to the polo ground, which had been given by the Emperor to Colonel Harrington, and which made quite a fair ground. Here we met Count Colli-di Fellizano and a Somali servant, whom he had taught to play, and had quite a good game. It seemed rather strange playing in the heart of Abyssinia. At 9.30 we returned to breakfast at the Residency. and afterwards started off on a round of calls, visiting the Russian Agency, the Russian hospital, whose staff had been reduced to one doctor, the French Agency, and finished up at the most distant one, the Italian Residency, which I found to be by far the best house in Adis Abeba.

Next day we called on M. Ilg, a Swiss, who was one of the original concessionaires of the railway, and who holds the post of Prime Minister to Menelik. As this happened

to be the Abyssinian Easter Sunday, the priests spent most of the afternoon in going from one Residency to another eating dinner, singing, and of course asking for alms. The previous night (Easter Eve) had been a disturbed one for us, as rifles of all descriptions were being fired to celebrate the annual festival. On April 30th Captain Duff and Dr. Wakeman returned from Lake Zuai, and on the same day we unfortunately made the mistake of altering our plans, deciding to go south instead of down the Sobat as originally intended. On May 3rd, on returning to the Residency from the polo ground, we found that we were to be received by the Emperor at 2 p.m. on the same afternoon. The kit necessary for an audience is uniform, dress clothes, or frock coat. We had brought dress clothes, but it seemed very strange getting into them for luncheon. We rode over to the Gibi with Captain Duff and an interpreter named MacKelvie. MacKelvie, who is an Irishman, is quite a character. was one of the original captives of King Theodore, for whose release the AngloAbyssinian war was undertaken. He never left Abyssinia, however, and not only relinquished all his European habits, but married an Abyssinian wife, and adopted nature, dress, and customs, even to the habit of bare feet and head. Colonel Harrington found him on first going to Adis Abeba, and employed him as an extra interpreter at the Residency. On reaching the palace we rode through a courtyard, and were shown into an ante-room, where, after waiting some ten minutes, M. Ilg came in and conducted us to the audience chamber.

On being presented by Capain Duff, the Emperor shook hands with us, after which we bowed, and sat down on chairs placed on a verandah facing the King. Menelik, who is of medium height, is an intelligent and occasionally kindly-looking man, whose hair is tinged with grey, and whose face is deeply pitted with small-pox. He sat cross-legged on a pile of cushions, and was attired in white silk robes, over which he wore a black silk jacket embroidered with gold, and on his head the usual black soft hat. We asked his

permission to go through his country to the south of Lake Margherita to shoot, to which he replied that he would consider the matter in Council. We then presented him with a magazine, 360 Fraser, with which he seemed pleased and examined it very carefully, continually asking questions as to its mechanism. He seemed astonished at there being no clip, and at first seemed to doubt our veracity. At the conclusion of the audience he invited us to a great feast which was to be held next day. On the following morning we started in state about 8.30, and at the Gibi the foreign representatives, and all Captain Decain, a French Engineer officer. In a quarter of an hour we proceeded to the banquet hall, and were all presented by M. Ilg to the Emperor, who was seated on his throne on a great pile of cushions, with an enormous quantity of Abyssinian bread in front of him.

The foreign representatives had a table to themselves, while Captain Decain, White-house, Bell, and myself had a small one close by. The Emperor's table, together with those for his foreign guests and places for thirty or

forty of his great officials, were all arranged on a raised platform, which was screened off at one end of the big banqueting hall, where, on the conclusion of the royal meal, the soldiers were also regaled.

The breakfast consisted of eleven courses, which were as follows:—

1. Clear soup with rice	Oily and tasting of ghee.
2. Rissoles of meat	All right.
3. Cabbage and mutton	•••
4. " " beef	•••
5. Macaroni	
6. Cutlets	••• ,,
7. Omelette	
8. Hard boiled eggs and	
pepper	
9. Green peas, bread, a	
pepper	
o. Pieces of meat	
II. ,, ,, ,,	
Araki. A colourless liquor made of honey.	
•	Nasty and strong.
Teg. The national drink made of honey.	
•	Nasty and strong.
Claret	,
Champagne	
Burgundy	
Black coffee	
	, 8000.

After breakfast was finished we drank the Emperor's health, and the curtains surrounding the platform were drawn aside, disclosing an enormous hall filled with small round iron tables, on which were piled platefuls of bread and red pepper, and round which the crowd of soldiers, loafers, &c., all sitting on the floor, swarmed. At a given signal there entered attendants (probably slaves) carrying large pieces of raw beef and huge charpoys These attendants stood by each of teg. table, while those round cut off pieces of meat and proceeded to devour them. Abyssinian method of devouring—one can hardly call it eating—raw meat requires some skill in its manipulation. A long strip of meat is first cut off by each guest, one end being held by the teeth and the other in one hand, while with the disengaged hand, with a knife, a piece is cut off close to the lips by an upward stroke. Any carelessness in this operation would probably result in part of the guest's nose coming off too. Occasionally, as a special mark of favour, Menelik would break off a piece of bread off his pile, and hand or send it to one of his chiefs or courtiers. After the banquet had been in progress for some time a dozen trumpeters, armed with long metal horns, whence proceeded a fiendish noise, entered the hall, and amid signs of universal approval, marched up the centre. When they had come up to the platform we rose and filed past Menelik, who shook hands with every one. As we left the hall the band struck up the "Mar seillaise," which was then (and may still be) the National Anthem, played first on all ceremonial occasions.

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## CHAPTER IV

#### ABYSSINIA AND THE ABYSSINIANS

Shoa and Tigre—A mongrel race—Menelik's Council—
Internal policy—Menelik and the Powers—Covetous glances on the Soudan—The imports and exports—
Gold—National dress—Abyssinian cruelty—Raiding and slavery—Delimitation of frontiers—The future.

THE kingdom of Abyssinia originally consisted of Shoa and Tigre whose inhabitants were quite distinct from those of the kingdom of Ethiopia, which now, however, forms part of the northern portion of Menelik's Empire. The Ethiopians were in all probability originally negroes of North African birth, and the former enemies of Egypt spoken of in ancient history as "The Ethiopian."

The present Abyssinian race is to a very great extent a mongrel one. Among the better classes and the original inhabitants, who

occupied the high plateaux, and who gave rise to the popular idea that the Abyssinians are a hardy race of mountaineers, Semitic customs and features are plainly visible; but among the people generally intercourse with their Egyptian, Soudanese, and Gallas neighbours has in many cases entirely eliminated the distinguishing features of the Shoan and Tigrean.

The Government is despotic, nominally consisting of the Emperor, his Swiss Minister, M. Ilg, and any Ras or smaller chiefs who happen to be in the capital at the time. These are supposed to advise the King on internal affairs, and are the people to whom Menelik refers when he speaks of his Council. What is more probable, however, is that Menelik's real Council consists of himself, his Minister, and Queen Taitu, and when foreign affairs are under consideration, perhaps the foreign representative who may be in favour for the time being, or whose Government is most likely to further the end in view. internal policy pursued by the present ruler is entirely for the benefit of the Monarchy, and owing to Menelik's craving for money, he

## ABYSSINIA AND THE ABYSSINIANS 67

would (unless strongly opposed by a foreign representative) be most likely to grant any concession or favour asked for, provided a sufficient amount of ready cash was forthcoming.

Since the unfortunate termination of the Italian War, which was more than a calamity, and whose results are by no means yet determinable. Menelik has been pandered to by every Power whose territories surround his country, the result being that although he, and perhaps Ras Makonnen, realise that, in another campaign with an European Power, the stars in their courses would probably not fight so much for Abyssinia, the majority of the chiefs and the whole of the populace firmly believe that they are capable of "licking creation."

The expression "Any stick will do to beat a dog with" is very applicable to Abyssinia, and following out this idea, any circumstance has been made a pretext by some foreign representatives to instil certain ideas into the Emperor's brain. During the bad days of the Boer War, Colonel Harrington must have passed many sleepless nights, and his tact and firmness may most likely have prevented complications arising from covetous glances cast occasionally (and not always without a certain backing from the Court) by Menelik on our possession in the Soudan.

The imports of the country consist mainly of arms, ammunition, and cotton cloth, chiefly the variety known as "Americani," though some of French manufacture is to be seen fairly often. Sword blades, and red and purple-dyed cloths are also small items. The exports are chiefly skins and ivory, and coffee from Harrar. That there is a considerable quantity of gold in the country appears to be certain. This is especially the case along the Blue Nile, in the Benishangoul country (where an European financier is said to have a large concession), in the higher waters and tributaries of the Sobat, in Kaffa, the source of Menelik's supply, and also at the N.W. end of Lake Rudolph, where the presence of the precious metal has been reported.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An expedition despatched in 1903 by the East African Syndicate failed to discover any.

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The national dress is composed chiefly of the cloth of the country, made of native cotton, except where the cheaper "Americani" and French cloths have been introduced.

The dress of an Abyssinian chief consists of cotton trousers, a shirt, and a belt, with the addition on state occasions of a lion's mane made into a cape, or more frequently a sheepskin with long hair. The headgear invariably consists of a soft felt hat, preferably black, whilst a sword with rhinoceroshorn handle and blade of European origin, worn on the right side and projecting at an angle of forty-five degrees behind the wearer, together with a shield of hide, studded with gilt or silver knobs, covered, except on rare occasions, with red or purple cloth and carried by a slave, completes the equipment.

A soldier's or Nagadi's dress is simply a pair of cloth trousers or knickerbockers fitting tightly at the ends, a long band of cloth wound

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term Nagadi means a mule-driver. It is not the equivalent of a soldier, and it is the aim of a Nagadi to try and appear as much like soldiers as possible.

many times round the waist, or thrown over the shoulders, something after the manner of a plaid, and a sword. In the case of an officer or minor chief, the cloth is usually red or partly so.

The Abyssinian above all things excels in cruelty, both to mankind and animals. Their pack and riding animals are worked in any condition, and with the most appalling sores, in many cases sloughing and full of maggots. In the case of sore withers or back the animal is cast and fired with the back edge of a grass-cutting sickle. The burns are made deep and numerous, with, of course, nothing to deaden the pain; if after the operation the animal were given a month's rest the cruelty would not be so glaring, as fire among all savages is the cure for all ills, and perhaps occasionally the firing does good, but the very next day the wretched animal is in many cases saddled, and expected either to carry its rider or load.

Veterinary knowledge is hardly apparent, except as above referred to, but I have seen them make a pony, suffering from a form of

horse sickness, inhale fumes from some powder burnt in a dish, with a cloak over its head to form an inhaler.

The pony died next day!

Their treatment of natives I will refer to later on, but their treatment of the Italian and Italian Somali prisoners and of the Danakil women is of too repulsive a nature to be dealt with in a book of this kind.

Next to the Abyssinian's cruelty comes his snobbishness, love of display, and admiration of shallow and cheap show in others. His wants are comparatively few, and a few dollars suffice to keep him in affluence for some time, when he has once purchased or annexed a rifle, sword, and, if possible, a mule. His laziness is only equalled by his contempt of the hard-working Gallas, who grow his grain and raise his cattle, or rather their grain and cattle which he annexes.

Occasionally good and hard-working men are to be found among the Abyssinians, and the late Captain Wellby spoke in glowing terms of some of his men. We had one of them on our return journey from Adis to the coast, and a very hard-working and trustworthy fellow he was.

In case my readers are inclined to think I exaggerate this, I quote the following passages from Mr. Wylde, who travelled extensively in Northern Abyssinia, and Dr. Donaldson Smith, who knows so well the southern and eastern borders of the country.

Mr. Wylde, in "Modern Abyssinia," says:—
"No harder worker than the Galla peasant
of Abyssinia exists, and no more harmless or
hospitable—never any trouble to obtain food
unless they are afraid of the Abyssinians.
No more truculent, worthless, conceited, lazy,
useless creature than the Abyssinian soldier,
who both formerly and now preys on the
defenceless cultivator and breeder whenever
a chance crops up."

Dr. Donaldson Smith, in "Through Un-known African Countries," says:—

"Besides the economic and political reasons which will eventually induce one of the civilised nations to rule Abyssinia, there are moral considerations which should compel all the civilised people of the world to lend their sup-

port to the crushing out of the Abyssinian power, and the substitution of a humane government in the place of Menelik's rule. Never have the evils of slavery shown themselves in a more terrible light than that in which they are now manifesting themselves in Abyssinia; nor could so cruel a Government be found in the world as that which is in store for the tribes among whom I journeyed if Menelik be not checked."

More than ten years have passed since Dr. Donaldson Smith's journey through what is now Southern Abyssinia, and Menelik, instead of being checked, has been encouraged to extend his territory southwards in an uninterrupted march—redolent of lust, oppression, and crime. His chiefs ruling, or rather oppressing, the wretched Gallas living south of Adis Abeba, are little better than leaders of robber bands, living on what they take from the inhabitants, collecting revenue in the shape of cattle, sheep, and grain, and, where elephants are to be found, indiscriminately killing males, females, and calves, and sending the ivory to the capital. Slaves are sent up, usually boys, who

are bought for about sixty shillings a head at the capital.

The fine fertile country surrounding Lakes Margherita and Ciamo is now in undisputed possession of Abyssinia, a country with an elevation of from 5,000 to 7,000 feet, which would have been, and may still be, suitable in the future for European colonisation. country on the actual shores is unhealthy wherever wet, but on both sides the hills rise precipitously. The southern frontier on the east of Lake Rudolph is not delimitated, and although it is more than two years since Mr. Butter's expedition to survey the country has returned, nothing apparently has been done. Whether we have gained anything on the West in connection with the control of the watersheds of the Nile I do not know.

What will be the future of Abyssinia it is impossible to predict. During the reign of the present Emperor it is unlikely that any serious trouble will arise; but that his successor, be he Ras Makonnen, or any other powerful chief, will succeed without opposition from other Rases is most improbable, and in the event of

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internal strife the Europeans at Adis Abeba will be in a most precarious situation.

That the present condition of affairs on the frontiers can continue is impossible, and when the outlying districts of the Soudan, Uganda, and East Africa are brought under control, steps will have to be taken to put an end to the raiding parties who are continually harassing the border tribes.

Whatever steps are taken in the future, it is to be hoped that the man on the spot will be one who is capable of grasping the situation and making up his mind, and who will not be forced to send despatch after despatch to the home authorities before being allowed to take decisive action to check the continual encroachments and raids of this cruel and dangerous people.

## CHAPTER V

#### TO LAKE ZUAI

Our passports arrive from Menelik—Preparations for departure from the capital—Our new caravan—A scratch lot—We leave Adis Abeba—Stopped by rain—An exasperating incident—Lake Zuai—Mount Sequala—The Hawash—After Swayne's hartebeeste—An awkward predicament—The Maki River—A frail craft—A perilous voyage.

On May 6th, two days after our presence at the Royal feast, the letters and passports necessary for our further journey arrived from Menelik, and we immediately called upon Fitarauri Hapta Mariam, through whose district we were first to travel, and obtained a guide to take us to Lake Zuai. Our preparations for leaving Adis Abeba and proceeding on our journey were almost complete. Mr. Beru had bought for us twenty-five

pack mules at about thirty-five dollars apiece, and our boys had come up from Balghi with nine donkeys, making twelve in all, while our riding stud consisted of two ponies and three riding mules. We added a few donkeys, men, and a pony or so later, but our transport was unfortunately always in a precarious state.

Next day our Abyssinian mules appeared together with one headman and fifteen men. These had been engaged by Mr. Beru, and, with three exceptions, were as lazy and unsatisfactory a collection of men as I have ever had to deal with. The only qualifications the headman had for his post was that he was considered a bit of a doctor, and had never had a job of this kind before. We distributed a dozen Gras rifles among them, and about 3 p.m. got them away for a short march, following ourselves an hour or so later.

After a four hours' march on the following day rain compelled us to camp, and the down-pour continued nearly the whole afternoon and well on into the next day. Then it cleared, and after some trouble with one of the men we were able to march in the afternoon.

The incident in question was exasperating, and showed us the type of men with whom we had to deal. One, by name Waldi, who could speak a certain amount of French, came and demanded to be taken on as interpreter, with increased pay and a mule to ride. As we naturally refused to accede to his request he produced a youth, whom he introduced as his brother, and gravely informed us that unless we engaged him as well they would both go back to Adis Abeba; and back they went, after having, much to their disgust, to give up Waldi's rifle and burnouse.

On the 10th of May we obtained our first glimpse of Zuai, and while on the march Whitehouse and Bell left the caravan in order to climb the sacred mountain, Sequala. This mountain is 12,000 feet high, and has a lake in a crater some 600 feet below the level of the summit, on the shores of which stands an old church of the circular Abyssinian pattern, and in the vicinity of which a number of Gallas were busily employed in building another sacred edifice under the supervision of Abys-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Burnouse = poncho or cloak.

sinians. Round the lake, on which ducks and wildfowl abounded, were good grazing grounds for the cattle.

Fortunately the River Hawash was low and did not give us any trouble in crossing, and we were able to camp on the southern bank, where we had another experience of the delightful qualities of our "Nagadis." Our donkeys with the Somalis did not arrive till almost 5 p.m., when it was raining heavily, and the river had risen sufficiently to wet the donkeys' loads. Nothing would induce the Nagadis to brave the elements and assist in getting the loads over until we sallied out, and, pulling down their tents, forced them to go and help the Somalis.

The day after crossing the Hawash was for me rather an eventful one. We had passed through several villages and had entered some park-like country, when a small herd of hartebeeste (Swayne's)—the first we had seen—appeared. Whitehouse having fired at one, which he only wounded, he and I pursued the herd on our ponies, but he could never get a chance for another shot. After we had been

cantering along for a short time, Whitehouse dropped his knife and pulled up. I did not see what had happened and galloped on after the herd. By this time I had got into thicker country and was galloping fast close on their After we had been going as hard as we could for some ten or fifteen minutes. I made a lucky short turn, and found myself galloping parallel within some twelve or fifteen yards of the herd. I then fired one shot from my '38 Colt and missed, but the second shot caught the animal I fired at in the spine, and brought him down with (as I found out afterwards) a broken back. Jumping off, I fired the remaining two shots into his neck, which were quite ineffectual. I then hamstrung the animal, and after considerable difficulty managed to finish him by cutting his throat. Having hacked off the head, I placed it under a bush to protect it from the vultures, and began to consider where I was and how I should obtain any assistance. I was in somewhat of a predicament, the bush was fairly thick, and I could see no landmarks. I had no water and no matches, my revolver

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CROSSING LAKE ZUAL

was empty, and my only weapon was my knife. Although I was perfectly certain I should strike the tracks of the caravan sooner or later, I was by no means so sure that I should do so before I had become uncommonly thirsty, or even before dark. I therefore left the hartebeeste and struck out for the caravan tracks. Fortunately I had not gone very far before an old Galla chief, who had joined the caravan, came galloping up. He was a dear old gentleman, but my knowledge of his language was more than limited; however, I pointed out where the dead animal lay, and managed somehow to make the old gentleman understand that I wanted him to go for assistance while I stayed to take care of the carcase. He cantered off, and after some little time I foolishly thought I would go and meet the men I had sent for. The ground was too hard for me to follow his tracks, and I completely lost them. Luckily before long I heard Whitehouse whistling and shouting, and when I came up to him he informed me that I was going in the opposite direction from the camp. I took him to the harte-

beeste, whose head we skinned, and returned to camp, where I found a drink very acceptable. On the way my Galla friend showed us peculiar species of succulent grass, which the Gallas chew when they are thirsty. This, I imagine, has the same effect as the roots which the Somalis, and the Bushmen of Southern Africa, depend on in a waterless country, and would probably assuage thirst for the time. The hartebeeste I had killed was not the one Whitehouse fired at, and I don't suppose I shall ever again be successful in riding down and shooting with a revolver one of these swift, enduring animals. The cartridges I had used were unfortunately short ones, and the two bullets I had fired into the neck had only just penetrated the skin and were found just embedded in the muscles. It was a mere piece of luck that my bullet had just nicked the spinal cord, for in any other portion of the body the result would have been perfectly harmless.

During the day we had been fortunate enough to purchase six milk goats, at the not exorbitant price of three shillings apiece. The



GALLA WOMEN AT MARKET, East of Lake Zuai.



GALLA MARKET, EAST OF ZUAL.

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Maki River was reached the following day, and we had been warned by Captain Duff that the local Gallas would not provide us with boats, or show us the way to reach the eastern shores of Lake Zuai by fording a shallow arm of the lake, without express orders from some Abyssinian Choum. However, after some little difficulty and with some fear of crocodiles, we got our caravan safely across, the ford being some five feet in the deepest part with a strong current. During the day, Whitehouse procured a reed boat, consisting of bundles of rushes tied up in the shape of a boat, and only large enough to hold one. We cut down some timber, fastening it to the bottom and sides, thus making the frail craft sufficiently substantial to carry two people. On this vessel, Whitehouse and Bell started gaily off down stream, but returned in the evening, having been obliged to leave their raft, being soaked through, scared by crocodiles, and having to tramp back carrying their rifles, paddles, &c.

## CHAPTER VI

#### TO LAKE MARGHERITA

A curious custom—Wonderful bird life—The King's fleet

— Bell's raft capsized — A picturesque camp — A
populous island—A Galla raiding party—An unpleasant river—Undrinkable water—A chain of lakes

— A reliable guide—An unfriendly Abyssinian—
Arrival at Lake Abasso—Enormous mosquitoes—
The hill country — A triumphal dance — A lion
incident—Trouble with the Abyssinians—A sham
cripple—Lake Margherita.

THE Gallas in this district have a very curious custom, which I never noticed in any other part of Abyssinia. Circumcision is not practised, and when crossing the Maki every man drew his foreskin forward, and tied it up tightly with a piece of grass, fibre, or anything that came to hand. The women do not wade

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The above custom is, I believe, practised because of the presence of some species of vermes in the water.



HUNTING GALLAS.

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ASTOR, LENGX AND TILGEN FOUNDATE NS. through the water, but are carried slung across men's shoulders.

Leaving the Maki we turned eastwards to Lake Zuai, and soon found ourselves confronted with what, I suppose, was still the Maki, and which we had to again cross somehow. Profiting by Captain Duff's previous experience we did not waste any time in searching for a ford, but followed the river to the lake into which we waded, and after a considerable detour round the mouth of the river, were able to cross in shallow water to the other side of the river. It may sound a curious method of crossing a river, to wade through a small bay of the lake into which it runs.

The bird life of Lake Zuai was wonderful. We saw flamingoes in countless numbers, together with pelicans, herons, storks, ducks, &c., while here and there hippo snouts were to be seen dotted about. Near by we found a number of sheds containing large reed boats, presumably a portion of the King's fleet on the lake.

Near here we left Jama with a few donkeys

to purchase grain, and he caught us up shortly afterwards, not having been very successful. Following the shore of the lake, or rather the surrounding reeds, we came to a river which Whitehouse crossed in a canoe, and across which I conveyed some stores on a raft pulled across by a rope.

Bell's raft, which was overcrowded with Abyssinians, capsized in midstream, much to our amusement and his disgust. Fortunately no harm was done and nothing lost. Camp that day was in quite a picturesque little dell, where I had a touch of rheumatism. Next day we again struck the lake, and found a brisk "Gabeyah" (or market) on the shores.

In the distance, lying north and south, was a large island which appeared to be thickly populated and, to a large extent, cultivated. Any number of reed boats were also visible. From these people who had, I believe, never seen white men before, we were able to purchase fresh fish, which proved to be very good eating. The people were very dignified, and evidently did not quite like admitting that we were quite new to them, as they carefully

impressed upon us the fact that they had often heard of white people.

Continuing our march along the shores of the lake, at our next camp we heard rumours of the presence of greater koodoo, but a day's hunting proved unsuccessful. Leaving the lake we now struck south-west across a small pass on the hills for a short time, and then turned eastward to strike Lake Daka, which I had seen from the tops of the hills. We passed a party of Gallas, clad in all their finery, who were probably on a hunting or raiding expedition. They were a merry party, and made noise enough to frighten any animal or to warn any one of their approach. Two days from Zuai, leaving the Suk-Suk River to the west, brought us through a very dry, park-like country to the shores of Lake Daka, where we were unpleasantly surprised at finding the water practically undrinkable, and a small river flowing into it from the northwest was no better. This river was a badsmelling and stagnant specimen, along which numbers of evil-looking birds were hovering. Finding no other water fit to drink, we sent

two Somalis to try and find where this alkali stream ran, and at night they returned saying that it ran into another salt lake, and that they had not been able to discover any other water. This news did not tend to raise our spirits, and we had to content ourselves with this barely drinkable fluid, helped by the small quantity of milk yielded by our few goats. For myself personally this camp was a lucky one, for I secured a good specimen of an Abyssinian duiker, a rara avis. following day three more men were despatched ahead to try and find water, and late in the afternoon they returned, having found a small pool of rain-water, where they had filled our water-bottles, the contents of which were more than welcome, and were carefully doled out so as to last till morning. route to the water we encountered an elderly Galla armed with a spear, who was most interested at seeing us, and trembled with excitement while talking to our men. said that he had never seen white men before, but it is possible that his fear of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lake Hora.

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A TREE BRIDGE.

Abyssinians may have caused his emotion. On this march we were travelling along a kind of hog's back, with salt lakes on either side. According to the maps of Mr. Oscar Neumann and Captain Maud there is some discrepancy concerning these lakes, as both the gentlemen named mark only three lakes, while both Whitehouse and myself are certain we saw four, a number which is also shown on the War Office map of 1903. certainly strange that two independent surveys show only three lakes, and I have no evidence except my own memory and Whitehouse's diary to prove that there are more, but until a proper survey is made I maintain that we saw four lakes-Hora, Daka, Lamina, and Ceveta.

As we reached the water a small herd of greater koodoo were seen, which Whitehouse unsuccessfully followed. We again sent on men to see if water was ahead, and while they were away a native came in and said he was travelling in our direction, and would show us water for two or three days. He was as good as his word, and altogether

proved the most reliable guide during the whole trip. A small party of mounted hunting Gallas appeared at our water-hole and wished to water their horses. However, this could not be permitted, and eventually, much to their disgust, they had to be content with drinking themselves. The pool was already almost finished, and when we left the next morning was quite dry. Four more marches to the south through a pleasant but fairly thickly wooded country (in which I saw a fine greater koodoo without getting a shot) brought us into a much more open district, where we ran into the encampment of the Abyssinian Choum, or legal bully of the locality. Our mule-men and Somalis, who had been sent ahead, had met with a by no means friendly reception, and apparently only Jama's tact had avoided trouble. The Choum called in the evening, and after seeing our letters was very apologetic. He told us the name of the place was Alalo, and also of the whereabouts of Lake Abasso, whither we decided to go under his guidance. Next afternoon we set off with the Choum for the

A STREAM IN SIDAMO.

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ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS. lake, which we reached after dark, and had to camp on the shores, where we were devoured by mosquitoes and soaked by heavy On the march the Choum sent some soldiers to a village and requisitioned a sheep as food for himself and his followers. told him in plain language what we thought of him, which astonished him not a little, and he explained that he was only carrying out Menelik's orders, which, I have no doubt, was Leaving the Abyssinian perfectly correct. and his followers, we crossed the lake, which was more or less like a figure eight, connected by a pathway made of bamboos, rushes, and grass over a kind of swamp, and camped further along the shores, where the mosquitoes were worse than I have ever seen them. They were of a prodigious size and extraordinarily pugnacious, and we had to eat our evening meal over a fire of green wood, which was nearly as bad as the noxious insects.

At this same camp a Galla chief came to visit us. He was a huge and very friendly man, and brought us presents of goats, ghee, honey, and banana bread, which was very carefully

wrapped up in banana leaves, and very good eating. From here we began to ascend into hilly country, and arrived at a place called Janasi, where we found great doings in progress, as a local magnate had lately, with the help of many friends, succeeded in shooting a small elephant. In honour of the feat a dance was being held in one of the huts. This seemed to consist solely of clapping of hands, singing, and yelling, while to help matters some one occasionally fired a gun through the roof. This performance, we were told, lasted for eight days. The wife of the hero wore round her left ankle and right wrist rings with star-shaped edges cut out of the animal's hide. The hero himself did not turn up till the following day, when he appeared clad in green silk, and was preceded by a large crowd dancing, singing, and firing rifles to herald his triumphant return.

Three days' march from Janasi brought us to where the track from Sidamo to Walamo joined our road. Our Abyssinians had given some trouble on the march by stealing milk from the unfortunate Gallas, which we made them pay for. The third day, as we were descending to the level plain stretching to Lake Margherita, I shot a Chanler's reedbuck, which was not known to exist anywhere in that locality. It was a very good head, and for some time was the record known.

Later in the day Bell saw some birds hovering, and went off to see what they were after. At a large ant-hill he suddenly saw four lions, not more than five or six yards off, feeding on the carcase of a waterbuck. Luckily, they slunk off, and climbing on top of the ant-hill he opened fire. With the fourth or fifth shot from his Winchester he caught one in the neck as they were trotting off in the long grass, and killed it instantly. It was a maneless male in very good condition. A broad, deep river here prevented us from following the shore of Lake Margherita, which was very close, and we had to retrace our steps into the hills so as to cross the affluents, as a creeper bridge we discovered over the big river was useless except for men. The going for the next few days was very up and down, through picturesque, well-wooded country,

fairly thickly inhabited, and cultivated. Abyssinians again gave considerable trouble by looting, and unfortunately we were unable to punish any one, as the wretched Gallas did not dare point to any one man for fear that from the nearest Abyssinian post retribution would overtake them. On the fifth day we camped near a large market-place called Hallo, in the Sidamo province, where we stayed for a few days buying food. The camp was always full of friendly and inquisitive Gallas. One day a small boy came hobbling into camp with one leg doubled up under him, his heel and thigh almost touching, and propelling himself along with a long pole. He began to beg, and noticing that his leg did not appear to be withered in any way I called to Bell, who looked at him, and came to the conclusion that he was shamming. Bell offered to cure him, at which he seemed pleased, but refused to be touched, and screamed loudly when his leg was handled. At last we got rather tired, and he was told that unless he kept quiet and allowed his leg to be examined he would be kicked out of

He then behaved himself, but tried to prevent a proper examination. feeling certain that nothing was the matter, the boy was held forcibly down and his leg pulled out quite straight without any trouble. After that his pole was thrown away, and he found himself able to run out of camp rather faster than he had come in, followed by the jeers of his companions, and, I have no doubt, by abuse and threats from our men. I should have hardly thought that the habit of begging and malingering was innate in these people, for, as far as I know, only one or, at the most, two white men had been to this place before, and it was a month's march from Adis Abeba or any centre or post of any missionary enterprise.

The market at Hallo was a very large one, and was held on the top of a steep hill which, owing to the heavy rains, was difficult to scale, as the red clay had become very slippery. The small change in use would not be popular in civilised countries, as ten pieces of iron go to the Maria Theresa dollar (nominal value two shillings). These pieces of iron are flat,

and shaped somewhat after the manner of a boomerang. As far as I can recollect they are about an inch and a half broad and twelve inches long. The crowded state of the market made it difficult to move about, and the friendly curiosity evinced by the Gallas, though by no means unpleasant, did not add to independence of action. Large as the market was, we were unable to procure all we wanted, and had to send Sethad Karscho and two Abyssinians with a donkey off to a distant market. Before they returned we struck camp, and marched down to the plain, within a few miles of Lake Margherita.

# CHAPTER VII

### TO LAKE CIAMO

Difficulties with Abyssinians—A game of bluff—A blustering official—Threatens to fire on us—We produce Menelik's letter—Our people arm themselves—Photographing the enemy—We send messengers to Bilati—Our camp surrounded—A rapid mobilisation—Doubling our sentries—A successful interview—Abyssinians withdraw—Profuse apologies—Camping near Margherita—Proceed to Lake Ciamo.

WHEN Karscho returned the same night he reported that he and his companions had been badly treated, and that a body of Abyssinians was encamped near by with the other three of our men practically prisoners. This news was hardly pleasant, but we decided to try and bluff the Abyssinians. As early as possible next morning we loaded up the animals, and had half finished our task when the Abyssinian leader, accompanied by some

thirty men armed with rifles and twenty carrying spears. He then drew up this imposing force across the track, but we paid no attention to him whatever till all the animals were loaded. He then sent one of his men to speak to us, but before listening to him, we demanded that our men and animals should be allowed to return at once, a demand which was immediately complied with. Then the head Abyssinian, who was said to be in charge of the Maxim gun belonging to the province, came up and with much bluster said we must not proceed, but were to go and see Bilati (the locum tenens of Dejacth Balgha), who lived some thirteen hours' hard riding distant. We flatly refused, and after warning us that on our attempting to continue our march he would open fire, he began to talk of taking us by force. At this stage Menelik's letter and our passport were produced, and caused him to alter his tune, although he still tried to bluster, saying that Menelik had no jurisdiction in that region, and that Bilati was the responsible man. During the palaver our

Somalis had gathered round, and some had appropriated the arms of our Abyssinians. Karscho, who hated all Abyssinians like poison, had put a cartridge into his Gras rifle, while my shikari Osman had buckled on a large curved sword in addition to a rifle. Thinking that we had had sufficient of the intruders, who were slightly odoriferous, I produced a camera and tried to photograph our arch enemy. The result was comic and successful, for throwing his "shama" over his head, he and his followers ran away like hares, all yelling at the top of their voices, while for a moment we half expected trouble. Later on he returned, and finding that we had through a Galla learned his name, he became very apologetic, though he still refused, however, to allow us to move, and seeing that there was no chance of slipping away, we decided to send Jama Said and

The Somali Karscho had had a noteworthy record, and his autobiography, if he could have written one, would have been interesting. Among his travels he had been with Mr. Chanler up the Tana, with Dr. Donaldson Smith, had fought in one of the Somali troubles, and had also served in one of the expeditions from Suakim.

one very trustworthy Abyssinian to Bilati with our passport and letter. Men were posted round our camp, and not only were our men not allowed to fetch water except when attended by an escort, but a guard accompanied us to the water while we bathed.

None of the Abyssinians had brought food with them, and they were anxious to come in and buy food from our men, but we forbade any one to enter our camp. During the day some of the more hungry scoundrels picked a quarrel with our mule-men, whereupon the head man gravely told us to punish our people, but received an answer which was probably more forcible than polite. This incident had a good effect upon our own Abyssinians, and no doubt was the means of their remaining (at any rate outwardly) true to their salt. After having had a long talk with one of our men who had come in with us from Adigalla, Waldi Yess, which we had discovered was the name of the head Abyssinian, came back to our camp in a totally different frame of mind: he had evidently been frightened. Late in the afternoon he left us for the night, after pompously telling us that three detachments of one hundred men each were holding the hills and the ford respectively: to this we retorted by congratulating him on his rapid mobilisation, and impressed upon him our firm intention to fire on any one approaching camp during the night: after that we sallied out to shoot guinea-fowl, doubled our sentries by putting some Somalis in addition to the ordinary guard, and slept peacefully till morning.

At daybreak my Abyssinian friend reappeared, and asked for an interview, which we graciously granted him at 9.30. During the day we were left alone, as soon after noon he drew his men off. At 11.30 that night we were wakened by yells from the Somalis, and found that Jama and Balacho had returned from Bilati, dead tired. They conveyed to us profuse apologies, a letter to prevent future molestation, a statement to the effect that the local officer had exceeded his orders, and that Bilati was sending his own secretary to apologise in person. Unfor-

tunately this latter gentleman appeared on the scene next morning before we were about, and Jama stupidly sent him away before we saw him, which was a great pity.

That day we moved down to the lake, and followed its shores for a short distance. camping close to a small conical hill which Count Wickenburg (a former traveller) had told Jama was probably one of the camps of the unfortunate Bottego. From this camp I shot a very fair specimen of a Grevy zebra. A large number of reed boats were dotted about in different parts of the lake, and I think a kind of boat service existed from one side to the other. A couple of days, during which Whitehouse bagged a very fine waterbuck, and Bell and I each secured our first specimens of lesser koodoo, both with nice heads, found us brought up short by a deep sluggish river, which we could not cross. We stopped for a day to find a crossing, and discovered that game was fairly plentiful. got another lesser koodoo, and sat up for lion, but without any reward. Eventually our men discovered a possible ford, and on

June 17th we crossed with no little difficulty, only to be again held up for a .couple of days owing to heavy rains. One night the goats invaded Whitehouse's tent, tore his mosquito net, climbed all over the bed, and practically took possession for the rest of the night. Another march, on which I shot a klipspringer, took us to the extreme southeast corner of the lake, where we left all our sick mules under escort, and with only necessities continued our journey to Lake Ciamo. Between the two lakes, Margherita and Ciamo (Aballa and Abaya), lies a high tableland, and on either shore of both lakes are mountainous districts, which should certainly be capable of forming a home for and sustaining in the future, a considerable white population. Near the lakes I should not say that the climate was perfect, especially in the neighbourhood of swamps, but higher up among the hills I do not think the climate leaves much to be desired. During the march from lake to lake, which was accomplished easily in a day, a large puff-adder was killed, and it seemed that these pestilential and dangerous

beasts showed a distinct partiality for this district, for during the afternoon Whitehouse and I killed two more very large ones. The three measured 60, 55, and 48 inches respectively. Our camp was now on the summit of a high cliff overlooking Lake Ciamo, in which numbers of hippo were disporting themselves, and commanded a very fine view of the surrounding country. We reached the southern end in two more days, and there found a small party of Abyssinians, who told us that they were after elephants, a small herd of which they said was quite close, and that they would take us to them in the morning. This they did not do, and as they were not pressed for information, I was disappointed, and my longed-for elephant hunt had to be postponed.

# CHAPTER VIII

#### THE RETURN TO THE CAPITAL AND HOME

Round Margherita—Despatch of a food party—Crocodiles swarm—Visit from an Abyssinian dignitary—Scarcity of food—We capture Galla guides—Abyssinian raiders — A Walamo funeral — Walamo market—Bathing springs—Leper bathers—A slave-soldier—Our pestilential camp—A friendly chief—Lake Zuai—Return to the capital—March to the coast.

KEEPING close to the shore of the lake, five days found us on the south-west end of Margherita, whence we sent round to the south-eastern end for our mules, and also despatched a party into the hills for food. At one camp on the way we were visited in the night by a lion, who was scared away by the sentry throwing a firebrand at him. We stayed at our camp on the shore of Lake Margherita for three days waiting for mules

and food, spending most of the time shooting at crocodiles, which swarmed.

On the second day we were visited by Gungasmach Takla Gorgis, who, attended by a crowd of followers, brought us presents, a bull, flour, and ghee, while in return I had most unwillingly to part with my revolver. We had been very hard up for food while waiting for the mules from the other side and for our food party, which returned from the mountains simultaneously with the arrival of the Abyssinians.

Game was conspicuous by its absence, and our food consisted chiefly of Indian corn. To make matters worse, Bell fell sick from fever and sun, and several Somalis and Abyssinians also suffered. When we left the camp, following the lake was most difficult, and we were almost "bushed" in high maize and scrub, and finally had to capture some Gallas and make them act as guides; but they always gave us the slip, until we adopted the plan of keeping their spears and cloaks of pieces of skin or cloth, when we found that they helped us considerably. To their astonishment we

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paid them well in beads, which each guide gleefully showed to the next, and they evidently could not understand us treating them differently from the Abyssinians.

For three days we wandered onward in the wet, low-lying country, with half the caravan sick and the mosquitoes more than bad. One of our mules bolted, and the six Abvssinians who were sent to find it returned without the mule, but with two harmless Gallas whom they had robbed of clothes and spears. For some time they refused to give up their ill-gotten gains, gravely informing us that they robbed people by Menelik's orders. As I have said before, I have no doubt they spoke the truth (more or less); but our orders were different, and the Gallas left next morning with their belongings and a small present of beads. Incidents of this sort were of almost daily occurrence, and when marching ahead of the caravan we used to warn solitary Gallas to hide until our men had passed. We were most thankful to emerge into open country and to be able to camp on rising ground, where mosquitoes were less numerous. Here a representative of Fitaurari Hapto Gorgis arrived with another bull as a present, saying that his master was at present at Adis Abeba, but that Gungasmach Takla Gorgis had ordered him to meet us and provide guides. This man took us directly away from the lake and up a very steep path into the hills, where the climate was quite different, and eventually brought us into the extensive cultivated plateaux which surrounded Walamo. The next four marches were over undulating country, with the road as slippery as ice owing to heavy rains, and where game was non-existent.

During the last two days streams of people passed us proceeding to the market at Walamo, and on the day of our arrival we witnessed a portion of the funeral rites of a Walamo man. The corpse had been laid in a grass hut, round which were grouped the female relations of the deceased. Mourners and spectators kept up a monotonous dirge, accompanied by a band, and rolled about on the ground, at the same time flicking their faces with bundles of leaves with small spikes

or thorns, which made their cheeks bleed and added to their weird appearance. orchestra numbered five musicians, who performed upon long, straight, wooden horns; while others (presumably independent musicians) added to the din by producing sounds and noises from an instrument shaped like a large flute and made of a bamboo pole, fitted and adorned with waterbucks' and cows' horns. The market-place of Walamo was extensive and densely crowded, but every one was goodnatured and happy, except when they came in touch with an Abyssinian. The wares for sale were spread out on the ground, and a brisk trade was being carried on. It was here that Captain Wellby had his only illness on his long trip, and the inhabitants were, and still are, supposed to possess the power of making strangers ill, or producing madness by staring at them while they are eating. Personally I do not think they stared more than other tribes, and certainly produced no ill effects on any of us.

Cartridges for Gras rifles form everywhere in Abyssinia small change; the number

equivalent to a dollar (2s.) varying according to the distance from Adis Abeba. We purchased a few necessaries from the Abyssinians here, but I fear that some of the cartridges which we tendered as coin will when fired do but little harm. Three days from Walamo found us on the Bilati River, near which we passed a small pond, formed by boiling springs, the water being so hot that the steam prevented one from seeing right across. These springs were used by the natives, who had made primitive steam baths over the small stream leading from the pond. stream and in the baths themselves were several lepers, chiefly women, whose appearance was hardly pleasant, for toes and fingers were conspicuous by their absence. people belonged to a settlement of Mohammedans, and their appearance in the centre of a pagan country, conquered by so-called Christians, is a curious and interesting fact, which is difficult to account for. Several of these people, including a few of the lepers, came into our camp and fraternised with our Somalis. Some of the visitors were able to

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read or follow the Koran, so that there was great joy among the Somalis at meeting with co-religionists. But we objected to the lepers!

At this same camp an Abyssinian, who described himself as one of Queen Taitu's soldiers, joined us with three wives and two children, aged about eight and ten. scoundrel had come from towards Lake Stephani, where, according to his own story, the children had been presented to him by his brother, a local magnate, who had kidnapped them. He was taking them to Adis Abeba to sell as slaves, for which he expected to get £3 apiece. Continuing our march northwards across a bush-covered plain which was sparsely inhabited by stock-raising Gallas, where I bagged two very fine Bohor reedbuck, we left the track which led to Adis Alam, the King's summer capital, and struck off eastward towards Lake Zuai. Although the rains were on we had great difficulty in finding water, and were compelled to camp by a river-bed, which was quite dry except for a few pools of stagnant water. This proved to be a most pestiferous spot, and there was much sickness among our men. We were obliged to send back with a mule to find two sick Nagadis who had fallen behind, and that evening only one was brought in; the next morning another search party had to be sent out, but the lost man turned up alone about 2 p.m., having spent the night in the bush. By this time ten Abyssinians were down with fever and a form of dysentery, and two Somalis and two Galla syces were hors de combat, so that marching was out of the question, while to make matters worse, the camp was scarcely inhabitable, the water was bad, and the general effluvia was more than unpleasant. After two whole days in this place of pestilence, where very heavy rain added to our discomfort, we were just able to move camp. One man (an Abyssinian) was unable to walk at all, and had to be tied on to a mule, while I walked alongside to hold him on. As I was also pretty seedy with fever, and the invalid would do nothing for himself, he had a very poor time, and was probably as relieved as I was when we struck a water-hole

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GALLAS WEST OF ZUAL

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and untied him. Even then he rolled off the mule, and staggering to the water, fell in, while trying to drink. We allowed his friends to attend to him and pull him out. Fortunately we had already secured our drinking water. Feeling very cheap next day, a short march was a great relief, and we were fortunate enough to hit off a village where we found a most friendly headman, who promised to take us to Lake Dumbel, which is the Galla name for Lake Zuai. These Gallas at the south-west end of Lake Zuai appeared to me to be a much finer set of men than I had previously met, and I was delighted to find that, much to my astonishment, they paid little or no attention to our Abyssinians, who did not show any signs of their bullying propensities while among these people. I believe that the Abyssinians leave this small part of the district severely alone, partly because it is said to be unhealthy, and partly on account of the free and easy manners of the inhabitants. The Abyssinians never, if they can help it, go into a low-lying country, as an elevated district is essential to them, and directly they descend into any fever country they fall sick at once. The slightest illness is sufficient to knock them over, and their fear of death by sickness is almost pitiable, so much so that if we had solemnly told any of our sick Nagadis, and kept to our statement, that they would die, I almost believe that they would have done so merely out of fright. Our friendly chief and his son accompanied us as far as Lake Zuai, which took three more days to reach, and then left us with many protestations of friendship, tearing up and breaking handfuls of grass, in order to show that we should in the future always be welcome and could count on the hospitality of himself and his village.

While marching by the lake Whitehouse caught a young Grant's gazelle, which I took charge of and kept in my tent, and in a few days the little animal became quite tame, but the cold of Adis Abeba was probably too much for her, for the first night in the capital proved fatal. We crossed the Maki River at the same place as before, and in six marches reached the capital on July 29th, having been obliged to take the long road from Zuai, owing to the

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BRIDGE OVER THE HAWASH SOUTH OF ADIS ABEBA.

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Hawash being in flood. Captain Duff had kindly come over purposely from Adis Alam on receipt of a note which we had sent on ahead, and entertained us most hospitably. Two days later Whitehouse and I rode over, some thirty miles, to Adis Alam to pay our respects to Menelik, and were most kindly put up by Major Ciccodicola, the Italian representative, and looked after by Mr. Baird, who had been sent to take Colonel Harrington's place while he was in England with Ras Makonnen. Next day we returned to Adis Abeba, and on August 3rd started our caravan off, following the next day, and finally camped at Rogi.

Passing Balghi and Tadechimulcha we kept on the main road to Harrar, crossing the Hawash by the bridge leaving it, and striking across towards the railway by Mount Assobat. Incidents were not numerous, and the journey was dull in the extreme. I bagged an oryx near the Hawash after a very long hunt, and had a very tedious hot tramp into camp. One day while on the march through part of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Now Sir J. L. Harrington, K.C.V.O.

Danakil country we heard yells from the rear of the caravan. Being the only one mounted on a pony I galloped back, half hoping to find that one of our Abyssinians had been speared by a Danakil; instead of that a very ordinary sight met me. A Nagadi was belabouring one of our unfortunate Gallas with a thick club, which he dropped directly I appeared and bolted. Jumping off I gave chase and soon caught the brute, who begged for mercy. However, he made more intimate acquaintance with the interior of a thorn-bush than he had had for some time, and also found that the sole of a boot hurts more than a naked foot.

We found the railway had made considerable progress since we left Adagalla, and after some trouble we were able to entrain at railhead and proceed to Adagalla, where we had to wait till next day for a train to Djibouti. At Djibouti we were lucky in finding a cargo-boat leaving next day for Aden, in which we were able to secure a passage, and two days later found us on the Messageries Maritimes *Indus*, en route for Marseilles.

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A word in conclusion of this portion. is a thousand pities that the cruel rulers of Abyssinia have been allowed to extend their occupation so far south to the detriment of our interests and those of the unfortunate tribes with whom they come in contact. As long as Menelik lives there is little chance of internal trouble, but on his death civil war is more than probable, and then it is to be hoped that the Powers will step in. To any one who has travelled in the country and seen the Abyssinian in his true colours, the present alliance with Menelik is a humiliating and almost degrading spectacle; Menelik will take all he can and in return give only what he is absolutely obliged to. I look upon Abyssinia as the greatest menace to the future peace of the African continent, and our policy with the country should be a most firm one, and not on any account made subordinate to that of another nation.

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# BRITISH EAST AFRICA

## CHAPTER I

#### LONDON TO KERICHO

Trip to East Africa contemplated—Interview with Sir Charles Eliot—The trip and the Foreign Office—No encouragement to survey—I select a companion—The start—Loss of my stores—Departure for Obbia—A bad landing-place—Foreign v. British ships—Austrian and German competition—Arrival at Mombasa—Meeting with Dr. MacDonald—The old and new harbours—The Foreign Office and East Africa—I meet Captain Berry—Join forces with him—Start for the interior—A natural zoological garden—Arrived at Nairobi—We reach Fort Ternan—Kericho—Lumbwas—Curious women.

Abyssinia, I began to make preparations for another trip, this time to British East Africa. Sir Charles Eliot, then H.M.'s Commissioner, happened to be in England, and I was successful in obtaining an interview with him in order

to learn the latest official news of the country. I told him that I had an idea of taking a qualified surveyor with me, and that I was willing to map any part of the country he or the Government might desire, provided that the greater portion of the track selected was a good shooting country, and that no obstacles were put in my way. I also made it quite clear that I wanted no money from the Government, my only desire being to be allowed to go through and shoot in the tract to be mapped. Sir Charles, who was very keen that I should do this, and thought that it would be a good thing, then went to the Foreign Office, where he was told that the officials at Downing Street would communicate with me. In the course of a few days I received a communication from the Foreign Office, stating that "His Majesty's Government had no objection to my taking a surveyor to East Africa, provided that no expense should fall on H.M.'s Government."

This was the kind of evasive answer I expected, so I replied, giving an outline of the sort of journey I proposed. Sir Clement Hill,

Director of the East African Protectorates, then sent for me, and I paid two or three visits to the Foreign Office, but meeting with no encouragement in any shape or form, I gave up my idea. Taking a surveyor through part of Africa is not the cheapest form of amusement to be indulged in, and I should have thought that the Foreign Office would have been only too glad to have had a map, of part of an absolutely unmapped country, gratis.

Sir Clement Hill, after my second visit to British East Africa, thought fit to tell me that he introduced me to East Africa!

An officer I afterwards met, who was formerly in the Intelligence Branch of the War Office for East Africa, told me that if I had gone to them, they would have done all they could for me.

After spending some time in searching for a companion, I was at last rewarded for my trouble, and all arrangements being made, I left London on December 24, 1902, a week ahead of my friend, so as to have everything ready when he arrived in the country.

At Port Said some officers joined us on their

way to Somaliland, and Aden was reached without any incident other than a blow in the Red Sea. As soon as we arrived in the harbour, one of my Somalis, who had been in England with me, and whom I had sent ahead to collect my boys, came on board with a cable from my friend saying that he could not come. This was rather a damper, and my spirits were not raised by the news I received ashore, that the ship by which I had sent nearly all my stores and ammunition, (but not my rifles, fortunately) had gone ashore near Ras Aloula.

On the afternoon of January 6th, after some thirty hours in Aden, I left on the *Patiala* for Obbia and Mombasa in company with some officers who were going to join General Manning in Somaliland. Three and a half days' steam brought us to that part of the world where we supposed Obbia to be, but we had to steam about for several hours before the masts of one of the men-of-war indicated to us where the troops were being disembarked.

A more horrible place to land troops than Obbia it would be hard to imagine. An THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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LANDING CAMELS AT OBBIA.

open roadstead practically totally exposed to the south-west and north-east monsoons and surf, with bad anchorage, ships are unable to approach close to the shore, and are obliged to have anchors out and steam up the whole time, in case of a cable snapping. A lighter which had been towed across from Bombay was found to be useless, and the ships' launches and boats were even then all badly knocked about by the heavy surf. The sailors, working as British sailors do, were wet through from before daylight till after dark in their endeavour to land men, animals, and stores. Horses and ponies were made to swim ashore, their heads generally being held against the side of the accompanying boat, while camels were slung into surf-boats, and upset when near the shore.

Obbia is a cheerless looking place, with only a small stone building, and a few native huts in the midst of desert visible, and having landed our officers, we left without delay, glad that we had not the prospect of an enforced stay.

The day before reaching Mombasa we were overhauled and passed by one of the Austrian Lloyd boats which had left Aden two days after us, and made Mombasa that night, entering the harbour early in the morning, thus giving our steamer (one of the British India boats) forty-eight hours start and a beating. Here was an instance of the superiority of foreign ships over the only British line running to Mombasa. It is a thousand pities that practically the whole carrying trade of the East Coast of Africa should be in the hands of føreigners, the passenger business being monopolised by the Austrian Lloyd and the cargo trade by the German East African Line. I am sure that if a good English line, with good boats, would run down the East Coast, or even all round Africa, that they would capture the whole traffic. The trade is growing rapidly, and is already almost more than the Germans can handle. Rates are very high, and a reduction would give a tremendous impetus to trade, in East Africa anyhow. It is hard to imagine a more short-sighted policy than to refuse to subsidise a good line from England down the East Coast to Delagoa Bay.

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MOMBASA.

On sighting the coast I was very much surprised to see that its whole extent was green with cocoanut-trees, palms, &c., reminding me of Java and the East Indies.

About breakfast-time we anchored in Mombasa Harbour, a most picturesque spot, and I was kindly met by Dr. MacDonald, the then P.M.O. of East Africa, who welcomed me to the Protectorate, and entertained me most hospitably during my stay on the island.

Mombasa has been described so often that it is unnecessary to say more than that it is now joined to the mainland by the Uganda Railway, and that it possesses two harbours, the old original Mombasa Harbour on one side, and the new Kilindini on the other side of the island, where boats of about 4,000 tons go, and which will be the main port of the future.

The old Portuguese fort and remains of other fortifications bear witness to the bloody struggles carried on for many years between the Portuguese and the Arabs.

To Sir William Mackinnon the British Empire owes the existence of the East African Protectorate, and to the Foreign Office the origin and existence of many difficulties which need never have arisen, and of which we have not yet heard the last.

In 1887 the first concession was granted to the British East African Association, and in the following year the founders of the British East African Company formed a company with a subscribed capital of £240,000. Owing to the absence of "hearty co-operation" from the British Foreign Office, which was rightly deemed to be "absolutely essential," and the too philanthropic ideas of the company, the enterprise was more or less doomed to failure; and in April, 1895, after considerable haggling, in which the Government cut a very sorry figure, the administration passed into the inexperienced and incompetent hands of Her Majesty's Foreign Office.

Owing to the policy pursued by the home administration, and the tactics of certain local authorities, the development of the country has been greatly delayed, and it is with a sigh of relief that every one with the interests of East Africa at heart, realises that on April 1, 1905, the Colonial Office became responsible for the government of this backward country.

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ASTON, LENGX AND



KILINDINI.

While in Mombasa I met Captain E. Berry, who, like myself, was travelling alone, so we decided to join forces, and make a start in order to fill in the time pending the arrival of fresh ammunition from England. We were fortunate enough to find in Mr. Bowring, treasurer of the Protectorate, a good Samaritan, who kindly lent Berry a '450 rifle and ammunition, which was luckily of the same make and size as my own heavy rifle.

At one o'clock on the afternoon of January 22nd we joined a train on the Uganda Railway en route for Nairobi and the West, and hoped to reach our destination without a breakdown. Dinner was obtained in the Dak Bungalow at Voi, where we found Mr. F. C. Selous vainly trying to add a specimen of the lesser koodoo to his magnificent collection. From daylight next morning until noon, when the train reached Nairobi, we passed through the most wonderful living zoological gardens on earth, herds of animals being visible on both sides of the line.

At Nairobi we were met by Mr. Bell, secretary to Sir C. Eliot, and here we picked up

the main body of our caravan, and purchased a couple of mules. Our destination, Fort Ternan, was reached without incident two days later. We were kindly entertained by Lieutenant Archer, who promised to assist me. by sending me to Kericho, where I hoped to get an elephant; and also by Dr. and Mrs. Paget.

Next day, after making up some loads, I took a stroll north of the line, and after going some distance succeeded in obtaining a fair specimen of the oribi, with 5-inch horn, and weighing 31 lbs. clean. On returning to camp, Berry, who was lame from his feet having been poisoned by mosquito bites, told me that he had determined to lie up and wait while I took a flying visit to Kericho. morning my guides turned up about 7.45, and twenty minutes later saw me starting off to Kericho, which was reached after a hard march at 3.30, and where Colour-Sergeant Ellison, whose garden bore witness to the trouble and time spent in its cultivation, made an excellent host. Kericho, which is at an elevation of about 7,000 feet, is the chief station in the country of the Lumbwas, a

BRIDGE ON THE ROAD TO KERICHO,



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LUMBWA.

warlike but friendly tribe closely allied to the Nandi, who have given, and are still giving, so much trouble to the administrator.

After resting a day at Kericho waiting for news, I left at seven on a cold morning, and six and a half hours later reached the village of Liboso, the chief of the district, who had sent to say that he knew where my quarry was to be found. During the afternoon I was surrounded by a very friendly but inquisitive crowd of Lumbwa, and also visited by Liboso himself, who appeared in a pair of tweed knickerbockers, putties, an old pair of boots, and a waistcoat on which was sewn a St. John's Ambulance medal, of which he was immensely proud. While in the Lumbwa country I noticed several women or girls watching me from a distance. I was struck by the fact that they wore a curious kind of reddish shroud, probably dyed "Americani," with slits for eyes, nose and mouth, and covering them from neck to below the waist. concluded that these people were living apart while they were recovering from the operation commonly performed on females in these districts.

## CHAPTER II

## HUNTING ROUND BARINGO

Searching for elephant—Return to Libosos—Berry and I part company—I proceed to the Ravine—Arrival at Londiani—The mules bolt—I reach the Ravine—A picturesque station—Return of Mr. Isaac—Arrival at Baringo—The Njemps chief—Go to the koodoo grounds—Sudden illness—Koodoo-hunting—Leave for Campi Kifaru—Rhino antics—The porters alarmed —After rhino—A charge—My first rhino—March north for the Reserve—Ostrich and oryx—After lion—A night alarm.

THE next four days were spent in looking for signs of elephant, but the only tracks we found were old, and I had not enough food to enable me to follow them very far towards the Victoria Nyanza, which I could see plainly from the top of a hill.

A small waterbuck and fair male and female topi were shot chiefly for food, and feeling

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UGANDA RAILWAY AT FORT TERNAN.

To face p. 133.

somewhat disappointed I returned to Liboso's village, whence not caring to leave Berry stranded at Fort Ternan, I marched on to Kericho and reached the railway on February 4th.

After waiting four days for a train we said goodbye to Doctor and Mrs. Paget and Lieutenant Archer, and eventually turned our backs on Fort Ternan. Berry now decided to return home, while I expressed my intention of going on to Eldama Ravine and Baringo.

Londiani, 7,410 feet above sea-level, the station for Ravine and 500 miles from Mombasa, is, I think, about the coldest spot in East Africa. My night's rest there was disturbed owing to both mules bolting, in consequence of which half the camp had to spend the rest of the night looking for the fugitives. Luckily there was a bright moon, and the runaways were caught and brought in before morning. Two easy marches from Londiani took me to Ravine, where I found a mail awaiting me, and as Mr. Isaac, the Government representative there, was due to return in a day or two, I decided to wait for him.

Eldama Ravine is almost, if not quite, the most picturesque station in the East African Protectorate. To the north is a magnificent view extending as far as Lake Baringo, some sixty miles distant, while to the east is almost as fine a panorama across the Molo Valley to Likipia. Westwards are the Elgeyo forests and mountains, and south is Mount Londiani. Before the days of the railway, Ravine, or Shimoni, as the natives call it, was a most important station on the caravan road to Uganda, and here it was that the first shots were fired in the unfortunate mutiny of the Soudanese troops. Here are to be found the remnants of the Uashingeshu Masai who used to inhabit the plateau of that name, till driven off by hostile tribes.

On February 12th Mr. Isaac returned from his tour in the district, while Captain Price, who had come in from Lake Baringo, arrived later in the day.

Next evening while dining with Isaac, we were disturbed by shouts and yells emanating from the neighbourhood of the prison. We found afterwards that the commotion was

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ASTOR, LENGX AND TREDEN FORMDATIONS.



ELDAMA RAVINE. THE OLD BOMA.

caused by a drunken prisoner who, after disarming a sentry, had run amuck. Fortunately he was stopped before he had done any damage beyond slightly stabbing one man and trying to shoot the sergeant.

On February 15th I left Eldama Ravine for Baringo, and three long marches took me to the old boma on the shore of the lake, which I found practically abandoned, Mr. Pearson, the collector, having built a new station in the foot-hills of Likipia to the east.

Before leaving Ravine, Isaac had described to me the places where, owing to scarcity of water on the road, it was necessary to camp on the first and second days to ensure reaching Baringo in three days. The first day my headman and guide and one or two men who knew the road assured me that a certain place was the usual camping-ground, and I believed them.

Next day, after rather more than an hour's marching, I came on what I was sure was the place Isaac had described to me, and where I should have camped the previous night. I said nothing, and tramped on till we reached

some rain-water, which I was assured was the only water possible to reach that day, and that it was impossible to reach Baringo on the morrow. Waiting till the whole caravan had come up, and some of the men had even begun to make their preparations for camping, I called up my headman Nubi, the guide, and the men who had assisted in deceiving me the day before, and informed them that I intended to march on to the proper camping-place, and also that Baringo would be reached the following day. Their faces lengthened considerably, and they endeavoured to dissuade me, saying that they could not do the march; their remonstrances were cut short and I continued my way. Those who know the marches from Ravine to Baringo will readily agree with me in saying that the second day's march is long enough for any one, and to add an hour and a half on to it is not pleasant. Rather more than an hour from camp my Masai guide collapsed in a dead faint, and I had most unwillingly to part with what remained in my water-bottle to revive him. The proper ground on the Molo River was not reached by some of the

porters till 6 p.m., twelve hours for some of them, and I do not think Nubi or any of the others ever again attempted to deceive me as to the length of march or the whereabouts of water.

To make sure that it was quite possible for the caravan to do the march without being too hard on the men, I discarded my mule and tramped the whole way.

The second day's march after leaving Ravine led us through as hot a piece of country as I think there is to be found in East Africa.

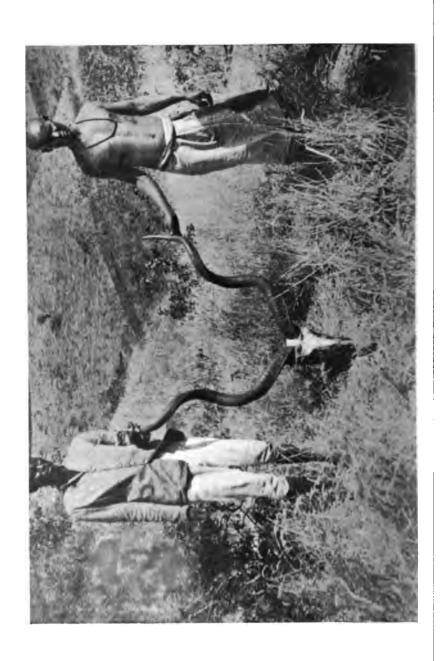
After choosing a good camping-ground, I sent off for the chief of the small Njemps village, while I went for a walk in the hope of getting some fresh meat. In this I was successful, as I returned with my first impala, that proved to be a fair specimen. On arrival in camp I found that the Njemps chief had arrived with a most acceptable present of milk, and after a short "shauri" he promised to guide me to the koodoo grounds and show me the finest antelope in Africa, of which I was most anxious to secure a specimen. The next

day I stayed at Baringo in order to rest my men, and in the course of a tramp round the country shot a Chanleri. On the following day my Njemps guides took me to the edge of the koodoo ground in that district (about four hours' march).

That afternoon I was taken violently ill, the result, I fancy, of eating some meat which had been kept too long, or of the Baringo milk. Although feeling as weak as the proverbial kitten. I started off early next morning with a mule, and during a seven hours' ride and tramp caught sight of one male and three female koodoo, too far off to get a shot, and I never saw the male again. In the evening I shot a Grant's gazelle, and saw quantities of game. During the course of the day I saw Greater Koodoo, Burchell's Zebra, Eland, Ostrich, Grant's Gazelle, Chanler's Reedbuck, Klipspringer, Steinbuck, and Next day camp was shifted an Dik-dik. hour's march farther into the hills, and pitched by a small water-hole, which I feared at first would not last. A long tramp from the camp showed nothing, however, except one or two

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female koodoo. Early the following morning I climbed over the first ridge, and after hunting a large tract of country without any success, as a last resource we descended into a deep ravine in order to search a "nullah." which looked a likely place, as it had thick scrub on both sides. I had almost given up hope of finding my quarry, when out of a patch of thick bush there crashed a greater koodoo, which started off at its best pace in the direction from which we had come. snatched my rifle (a '340 Winchester) and ran back, catching sight of him as he galloped through the thin scrub. The first shot missed him clean, but the second, by a stroke of luck, caught him in the neck just as he was going over a small ridge, and in a few minutes the coveted trophy was ready for skinning. He proved to be a fair shootable beast with a nice wide spread.

Another day was unsuccessfully spent at the same camp looking for koodoo, and on February 24th I left the hills and marched north towards a plain that was spoken of as Campi Kifaru.

During the first day's march I had my first experience of the disturbing results upon my porters of the presence of rhino. After we had been going about a couple of hours and had got into thickish bush, we were suddenly startled by a snort and a crash. grabbed a rifle and waited; the porters didn't. Crash, bang, clatter, down went the loads and up the thorn-trees they clambered like a troop of monkeys, while two rhino, a female and a "toto," careered wildly across the track, luckily without taking any notice of any one. We had not gone much more than a mile when precisely the same pantomime occurred, except that instead of charging through the caravan the disturbed beast galloped parallel to the porters, with the result that rather more loads were thrown about than on the previous occasion. I began to wonder whether my chop boxes, cooking pots, &c., would survive these ordeals, but strange to say hardly anything was damaged, and camp was reached without further incident. the afternoon's stroll I got a Grantii and a steinbuck, and saw some old buffalo tracks.

A little more than an hour's march next day brought me to a spot where I intended to stop for a day or two in the hopes of finding I was not to be disappointed, for that very day I had not gone far from camp before I "spotted" one across a fair-sized open plain. Leaving half a dozen of the porters, who had come with me to carry anything killed back to camp, in some bushes, I started off with my Somalis to try and stalk the kifaru. We soon gained the cover of some scrub on the opposite side of the open plain, and found the animal's tracks, but he was not to be seen. Climbing a small hill we espied the brute slowly feeding back across the plain we had just left, in almost a direct line for the porters; so keeping carefully behind him we gained rapidly, and by the time he entered the bush were almost within easy range. From where he went into the bush to the place where we left the porters was only about a hundred yards, and he must have either "got their wind," or "picked up their tracks," for all at once he came charging

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kifaru = Rhino.

full tilt out of the bush straight for where they were standing. As he passed me at about 40 yards, I caught him behind the shoulder with a '450, turning him at once. Osman was reloading the '450, I put three Mannlicher into him at about 80 yards, and then broke his off fore shoulder with the big rifle; after that he was helpless, and finished off easily. This was my first rhino, and for Baringo I think an average one, with a horn just under 19 inches. Though these animals are, or were, very numerous in this district, their horns do not run very long. While the scalp was being taken off I had a look round with my glasses, and saw two more rhino and four giraffe in the distance.

After a busy morning with the scalp and feet of my rhino, I tried to find one of the two I had seen on the previous evening, but discovered no trace of either. Two very large herds of eland, which were grazing quietly, let me approach quite close, and as I wanted fresh meat I shot a Grantii.

Next day I marched north for two or three hours, and entered the Sugota Reserve. This

reserve, together with the Baringo district, was formerly included in the Uganda Protectorate, and when the eastern province of Uganda was transferred to East Africa, owing to some legal formality being by some chance omitted, ceased to be a game reserve, until again made one by an East African ordinance. After a futile attempt to approach an ostrich, I endeavoured to get a shot at a herd of oryx (Beisa); in this I was more successful, and shot a female with long horns at about 250 yards. Not far off there were three more herds of oryx, but as there were no good heads to be seen I left them alone and returned to camp, shooting a fair impala on the way.

After breakfast the following morning I took my glasses and went up a small hill quite close to camp, from the top of which a capital view of the surrounding country could be obtained. I had not been spying long before I picked up a rhino feeding about a mile away, so going quickly back to camp we started after him. The wind was shifting round in a most uncertain manner, and when

we got within about 60 yards he must have winded us, for he suddenly stopped feeding, threw up his head, and began sniffing. The point of his shoulder was towards me, and I fired, hitting him evidently too far back, for he staggered, twisted round, and before I could get in another barrel was off ex route for the west, first stop Baringo! followed and tracked him for a considerable distance, but as he led us into very thick bush, his tracks became more and more difficult to distinguish from those of other rhino, and there being no "blood spoor," I was eventually forced, much to my disgust, to give him up. Retracing our steps, we suddenly stumbled on the fresh "spoor" of a lion, which we followed slowly for a long After nearly three hours' patient way. tracking, the spoor led into a dry nullah with overhanging bush on both banks. Suddenly there was a crash, and a big animal bolted out from under a bush not five yards off. I sprang instantly across the nullah, and ran up on to some rising ground, but saw nothing, and until I went back and satisfied

myself that the tracks were those of Leo I could hardly believe that it could have been the lion.

I was rewarded for an early start next morning by seeing a rhino in the distance, but as he was a long way off I sent back to camp for my mule and started to stalk. Eventually we crept as near as possible and waited some twenty minutes for him to feed up to us. When he was within 50 yards a '450, well forward made him perform what Neumann calls the "death waltz." Another barrel only had the effect of causing him to retire as fast—and not a bad pace—as his short legs could carry him. However, as he received two or three bullets from the small bore he did not go much more than a quarter of a mile, and was easily finished. During the process of skinning I climbed a small hill, and in the distance saw a herd of twenty giraffe, two more rhino, and eland and zebra galore. When my mule turned up from camp I started back, missing at very long range on the way an animal which I took to be a "cheetah." On my return I found the camp, with the exception of my Somali boy and skinman, in a great state of excitement. On inquiring the reason I was informed that three Suk people—a very bad tribe 1—had come into camp and had caused much alarm. I found it impossible to calm my Swahili and Wakamba people, who at once set to work, much to the amusement of myself and the Somalis, to erect a large zariba. At ten o'clock that night I was awakened from peaceful slumber by personal boy, Abdi, who told me with a broad grin that the sentry had reported that there were some men crawling near the camp. I got up but found nothing, but my headman would not be satisfied till I served out some extra rounds of Snider ammunition. Then I was allowed to sleep till daybreak.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bad in the estimation of the porters only.

## CHAPTER III

## BACK TO RAVINE

In the track of buffalo—Rhino near camp—Encamped on the lake shore—My first buffalo—Adventure with a rhino—Suk—Visit to Mr. Pearson—I dismiss my Njemps guides—Return to the Molo—Building a bridge under water—Arrival at Ravine—A serious explosion—A wonderful East African garden—Departure from Ravine—Off to Mount Sirgoit—Through virgin forest—A fine grazing and agricultural country Arrival at Sirgoit—Adventure with rhino—A narrow escape—A troop of seven lions—More lions—My first lion—A "shauri" with Wandrobo—Lost in the night—Arrival at camp.

Two days later I struck camp and marched towards the lake in the hope of finding buffalo. During the afternoon I saw several giraffe and shot a Grantii, and on returning in the evening I found that my porters had again been thrown into a state of consternation by a couple of inquisitive rhino feeding

close to camp. By eleven the following morning I had reached the shores of the lake, and after pitching camp a couple of hundred yards or so away from the water, I took Elmi and a Swahili (Osman being lame from a bad foot), and started out in search of some traces of buffalo. We had only gone a little way when I shot a good impala, which proved to be the best head I had obtained; and after sending it back to camp, I resumed our search for tracks, and presently came upon some quite fresh ones which led into a dry "nullah" near a small conical hill, up which I sent the remaining porters. Accompanied by my two gun-bearers and the Njemps guide, I followed the tracks, which after a while turned back towards the hill up which I had sent the porters. latter were now signalling us to come on, as three buffalo had just gone by. After tracking the beasts through thick bush for about an hour, we came into fairly open country with plenty of cover; and saw that our quarry were on their way to water, and that they had stopped to drink at a small

water-hole and had gone on again. The light was getting very bad when, about fifty or sixty yards away, I could discern the shoulder and half the head of one buffalo and the hind-quarters of another. I fired. whereupon they turned and rushed off, but the '450 had done its work, and we soon heard the wounded beast groaning under a patch of bush, and saw there was no need for a second bullet. Much to my sorrow and disgust it turned out to be a female. My porters afterwards told me that one of them had larger horns than the other, so probably the three were a male, a female, and a nearly full-grown calf. I had let fly a second barrel as the buffalo turned and galloped off, and the bullet had unfortunately torn a nasty piece out of one horn, but on its arrival home Messrs. Rowland Ward rectified this with their usual skill. I got back to camp about 8 p.m., and next morning, having often been told by those who have hunted in South Africa that lions have a partiality for buffalo meat, I went early to the carcase in the hopes of finding Leo.

There was, however, no sign of lion, so I went after some waterbuck that I had seen on the way.

I left Elmi with my heavy rifle to follow at a respectful distance, while Osman and myself tried to approach the herd with only a small rifle, a :340 Winchester. We managed to get within easy range, and were only waiting for the male to show himself when something glistening on my left caught my eye. At first I thought it must be an ostrich, but a moment's reflection told me that no ostrich with any self-respect or thought for his or her plumes would venture into such thick bush. In my horror I now saw, not more than a dozen yards off, the ugly snout, horns, and forepart of a rhino, who, sniffing uneasily, was coming suspiciously (as I thought), and noiselessly through the To nudge Osman and draw his attention to our danger was the work of a moment, and no two human beings tore faster through the thick patch of bush, or did a short hundred under difficulties, in better time than he and I. A small-bore rifle with softnose bullets is no weapon with which to face a rhino at close quarters, and although it would most likely have turned him, I preferred not to try. Luckily the rhino neither saw nor winded us, but unfortunately the waterbuck did, and after unsuccessfully following them for a time I returned to camp.

Late that afternoon some of the Suk people appeared on the scene, and caused consternation among my men. The Askaris immediately grabbed their rifles, and appeared hurt when I made them put them down, for if the Suk had been bent on trouble, the sight of these arms would only have aggravated matters.

Two days' march took me back again to the old boma by the lake, and the following day, leaving the camp in charge of my Somalis, I took my caravan to the new boma, a couple of hours' march into the hills, in order to call on the collector, Mr. Pearson, who kindly invited me to lunch, after which, in the cool of the evening, I returned to my camp. Next morning I paid off my two Njemps guides, who had been with me all the time and had proved most useful, and

started off on the return journey to Ravine On reaching the Molo, at the point where I had crossed it on my way to Baringo, I found it to be in flood and quite impassable, so I proceeded to another ford which, although unfordable, appeared capable of bridging. Building a bridge under water sounds rather a curious performance, but that was literally what I had to do, for although the actual stream was not broad, the water had overflowed the banks for quite a considerable distance. I was impossible to bridge the whole. A couple of straight thorn-trees were soon felled, and after a certain amount of trouble and a great deal of noise, these were laid side by side across the actual river. Fortunately, there was little or no current to disturb the trees, which were too heavy to float, and a pile at each end with a rope stretched across as a guide line, completed this feat of submarine engineering.

On the following morning we successfully crossed the Molo, and a couple of days' march brought me back to Ravine, where I found Mr. Isaac recovering from a serious accident



CROSSING THE MOLO RIVER IN FLOOD.

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ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS. It seems that the day after I left for Baringo he had been blasting stone in a quarry, when a large charge of gunpowder exploded within four feet of his face. His escape was marvellous. Fortunately he saved his eyes by protecting them with his arm, but his hand and one side of his head were seriously damaged by stones and powder. For a fortnight he was blind in one eye, but happily both he and a native, who was also hurt, escaped without any permanent injury.

Owing to the fact that I was unable to buy sufficient flour to ration my men for any length of time, I spent a most pleasant three weeks at Eldoma Ravine, as the guest of Mr. Isaac—in this respect, perhaps, following the example of the "parasites," spoke of by a late Government official in one of his reports. During this period I managed to secure a couple of very fair Ward's reedbuck, two bushbuck and a duiker (Grimm's).

The garden at Ravine is an example of what can be done in the highlands of East Africa, even by a man who, owing to his official duties, has but very little time to give

to such an occupation. Potatoes were given away, and any white man, whether sportsman or official, could rely on replenishing his stock of vegetables at Ravine. There was an abundance of peaches and passion fruit; the vegetables included potatoes, artichokes, onions, cauliflowers, vegetable-marrow, beetroot, &c., while flowers were also grown to a certain extent. Mr. Isaac's example might be well followed by every official in East Africa, for every station ought to possess a kitchengarden, if only for the benefit of the health of the occupant for the time being. If asked why a certain station has such a poor garden, the reply invariably is: "What's the use? I get my garden well started I shall be moved to another station, and find that the man I relieve has never begun one, and the man who relieves me will neglect mine." That is quite true, for there is no encouragement for a junior official to have a good supply of vegetables even for his own use.

On April 5th my porters, whom I had sent the previous day to bring flour from Londiani, returned, and the next morning I left Ravine and my kind and energetic host, whom I did not expect to see for some six weeks or more.

My objective was now Mount Sirgoit, some six days' journey, an entirely unhunted and unknown region, where I was told lions were numerous. An old Uasin Gishu Masai came as guide, and for two days our path, which here and there required a considerable amount of clearing, led through virgin forest, interspersed occasionally with clumps of bamboos. Camp was pitched the first night in a small clearing in the forest, the night being very damp and cold, with the thermometer at 46 in my tent at 6 a.m.

Next day the country became more open, and at the end of the march we were practically through the forest. During the march I saw a small herd of fourteen roan, with inferior heads, and I shot a Ward's reedbuck in the evening for meat. Tracks of different animals, including pig, buffalo, and probably "bongo," were visible everywhere. The timber in the forest ought to be of considerable value, and a concession has, I believe, been granted to a syndicate to work it.

Sirgoit was sighted on the following morning, and three more marches brought us to a small lake near the mountain, where I intended to shoot.

The country we had traversed consisted of grassy, undulating plains, eminently suitable for grazing-grounds for large herds of stock and for agriculture, which could also be carried on with advantage to a large extent. The grass appeared to be excellent, and water plentiful in most places for grazing, though too far apart, perhaps, for small holdings. Homesteads would have to be built at the edge of the forest, and the runs or ranches extend out into the open plains.

The morning of our arrival at Sirgoit was a red-letter day, though it nearly had a disastrous ending for one of my men.

Somewhere about 9 a.m. I was with my two Somali shikaris, Masai guide, syce, and a mule a mile or so ahead of the caravan, examining the surrounding country, wholly engrossed with speculations as to the future of this beautiful district, and certainly not thinking of rhino or any of those disturbing

elements which are met with so often when least expected. I was called from the clouds by a yell from the guide, and, turning round, saw at a distance of only fifteen to twenty yards two rhino-a mother and a young one -charging full tilt at us. I turned for my heavy rifle, which I saw to my horror was in its sling-case and unloaded. Osman, who was carrying my 256, was too far off to be of any service, as the animal was coming in a line between us, so there was nothing to do but bolt, yelling at the same time to Osman to shoot, while Elmai, who had the '450, could not get the gun out of its cover. My syce, who was nearest the rhino, tripped, and fell heavily on his face, while I expected another minute would see him up in the air with at least a considerable hole in his anatomy and a broken bone. That day, for some reason, I had put on a topee instead of a double terai hat, and, as the boy fell, this blew off and fell between the prostrate syce and the rhino, which stopped short, tried to horn the hat, and got a Mannlicher bullet from Osman in the shoulder. By this time I had my '450 ready, but as the rhino backed, and I did not wish to kill a female, I changed it for the '256 and contented myself by driving her off by a couple of shots in the ribs. I do not think the syce will have a narrower shave for some time. During the excitement my mule, of course, had bolted, and was not recaptured till next day. I do not think the rhino was much the worse, as the bullets were soft-nose, and I saw what I took to be the same two animals on another day.

Continuing our march, we came on the remains of a zebra, which had been plainly killed and eaten by lions during the night. While looking about I caught sight of the finest live lion I ever saw in or out of a Zoo or menagerie; he had the most magnificent black mane imaginable, trailing down almost to his toes. He was slinking off round some rocks, so with my two Somalis I gave chase, and after going about half a mile suddenly saw two heads appear through the long grass and immediately disappear. Then to my utter astonishment, as I looked over a ridge overhanging a small swamp, I saw seven

lions careering off without offering me a chance. From what I could see I should say there were three big males, two good-sized females, and two smaller ones. We followed them for a long time and eventually got round the right way of the wind and found them on the far slope of a small valley. Here we waited some time for the big one to rise, and when he did I missed him clean. I fired again, when he galloped off; but I had underestimated the distance, a common fault, and shot low. My feelings are better imagined than described.

We trudged wearily on in hopes of getting up to them again, but we could make nothing of it, and had almost given up in despair, when we saw another troop in the distance, and we started off after them. I am almost certain they were not the same as those we had seen earlier. Although they either saw or winded us and began to move off, I was lucky enough to place a Mannlicher bullet at about two hundred and fifty yards in the off quarter of the last lion, who sat down and then came back to look for me. He continued for about

one hundred yards, when he turned to again follow his companions; and, as he did so, he stood for a fraction of a minute end on, and received another '256 in the other quarter. This time he meant mischief and trundled down into some long grass and rushes about fifty yards, from where he was hidden from view. After waiting some little time, and, as nothing happened, we started on the not too pleasant task of waking him up, and it was with a very great feeling of relief that I saw him stretched out dead at the far edge of the long grass, the last bullet having raked him and lodged in the back of his neck. This was my first lion, and, although not to be compared with the one I had previously missed, he was not at all a bad specimen, and in excellent condition. The skinning operation finished, we made tracks for where we thought and hoped camp might be. fresh skin of a lion is no light load, and that and the skull and three rifles were divided as equally as possible between us. Camp was a long way off, and when at about 6.30 that evening we came up to two or three of my

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WANDROBO.

boys with water, who had come out to look for us, we were very glad of a drink, as we had not had a drop since six that morning. My water-bottle had been left with the syce; and as we had described nearly a half circle from where we first saw lions to the spot where we camped, and as it was the end of the dry season, we had found no water. I was very glad to reach my tent.

The following day was spent (after proper attention had been paid to the skin of the lion) in trying to make a "shauri" with some Wandrobo, who were hunting in the district, and in shooting a couple of Heuglin's hartebeeste for meat. The Wandrobo proving no use, their only object in life being apparently to kill as many animals for meat as they could, I started off next morning to try and find lions. For some time we were quite out of luck and no sign or trace was to be seen. Soon after midday, however, we sighted what appeared to be a large swamp, which turned out to be a very long one, with a small stream running through the middle. On a hillock on the far side, a group of seven lions was to be seen, but

to approach anywhere near was a matter of no small difficulty. To get through the swamp looked easier than it subsequently turned out to be, for we must have taken an hour cutting our way through the thick rushes and grasses, the former in places being over 16 feet high, and almost as thick as a man's wrist, the water being always knee-deep and in places By the time we had cut our way through and reached the other side it was getting very nearly dusk, and no time was to be lost. There was nothing to do but to trust to luck and go straight for the lions with the chance of approaching unobserved. luck was out, and they slunk off into the reeds before I had any chance of a shot. We followed up to where they entered, and I got a snap shot at a moving head some two hundred yards off, but with no success. we were coming out of the reeds one of my men who was behind me drew my attention to a lioness looking at us at fairly close range, and as he was directly between us I stepped on one side for a shot, but the animal only grunted and disappeared. After a vain attempt

LAKE SIRGOIT.

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ASTOR, LENGX AND TILDEN FOR THE TRINS.

to find our road through the swamp, my Somali Osman declared that he had seen where the swamp ended and that we could walk round it. As we started on our return rain began to fall fairly heavily, and by the time we rounded the end of the swamp it was quite dark and pouring in torrents.

In a couple of hours from starting for camp we were fairly close to the Sirgoit rock, and I hoped to be in camp in half an hour.

We marched for mile after mile, but met no sign of our temporary home. Darkness had come on and no landmarks were visible; the rain was bitterly cold and my flannel shirt, in the absence of a coat, afforded little protection. I had almost given up all hope of reaching camp that night when the report of a rifle was heard. We replied by another, which was answered, and at 11.30 p.m. we met my boy Abdi with a search party, who had turned out to try and find us. Another half-hour or so and I had turned in between the blankets and was swallowing the first meal, except a small biscuit, since early morning. I finished up with a good dose of quinine, and no evil effects followed.

# CHAPTER IV

#### A WONDERFUL LION COUNTRY

Departure from Sirgoit—I alter my plan—A porter attacked by a snake—A quartz country—Lions near camp—Curious stone kraals—More lion-stalking—Bad luck—The Foreign Office and the Zionists—Gigantic hailstones—Return to Ravine—A tame zebra—I accompany Mr. Isaac on tour—Start for Londiani—Return to Ravine—Isaac and I start for Elgeyo—A difficult march.

WHEN I left Ravine it was my intention to reach Mount Chibcharagnani, and after returning to Sirgoit to go to the Kerio Valley in order to meet Mr. Isaac, who was contemplating a tour of inspection and collecting huttax. A letter from him sent by runner, however, caused me to alter my plans, and after going for a few days to the north to see if there were any traces of elephant, to return to Ravine. The day before I left Sirgoit I

# A WONDERFUL LION COUNTRY 165

saw a very fine leopard, but he went off without giving me a chance. Next morning I struck camp and followed a small stream flowing from Lake Sirgoit into another river from the Elgeyo hills, and forming eventually a tributary of the Nzoia. I followed this stream more or less northwards for a couple of days, marching on a lower level than the Uashingeshu Plateau, and to the west of the continuation of the Elgeyo escarpment, until I reached an undulating park-like country with good grazing. As there was very little game, after the second day's march I made up my mind to return to Sirgoit and try to secure another lion.

The day I left Sirgoit one of my porters was cutting grass, when a snake sprang up and ejected some fluid into one of his eyes. He did not tell me of this for twenty-four hours, by which time he seemed to be suffering considerable pain, and to be almost blind. I had a five per cent. solution of cocaine in my medicine chest, and from this made a wash of one teaspoonful of cocaine solution to seven parts of water, which had the desired

effect, and in about three hours he could see well and was free from pain.

It may interest mineralogists to know that in the country, north of Sirgoit, quartz was very common.

The night before reaching my old camp at Sirgoit, I was camped close to a stream, when just before dinner a troop of three lions came down for their evening drink, but as it was too dark to see, nothing was to be done, although they were not more than fifty yards off camp. The porters, who had been too lazy to build a boma, were much terrified, and the majority of them spent the night in the trees, much to the amusement of my Somalis. The beasts prowled around, roaring and growling nearly all night, but when daylight came I was unable to follow their tracks for any distance or to make out where they had gone.

It is in the neighbourhood of Sirgoit that some curious stone kraals are to be found, which are supposed to have been built by the Sirikwa, a tribe who had been driven off

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Boma=zareba.

STONE KRAALS ON UASHINGESHU PLATEAU.

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the plateau by the Uashingeshu. These kraals have been mentioned by Major Powell-Cotton, who described them as circular, and by Mr. Hollis, who reported them to be oblong or square. So far as my own observation goes, I never saw one that could be called square, although some might certainly be said to be oval-shaped. They are distinctly interesting, and must have been the result of a considerable expenditure of labour, for they are sometimes far away from any outcrop of rock. Naturally they are in ruins, and only the walls, some of which are five feet high, remain. How they were roofed can only be a matter of conjecture.

My first day's lion hunt after returning to Sirgoit resulted in seeing a troop of four, but I was not able to get close enough for a shot. Early next morning I left camp and made a detour for the south, in the hopes of finding the fine black-maned lion I had seen on the march up. There were, however, no signs of Leo, and it was not till well on in the afternoon that I saw two on the far side of the swamp I have already mentioned. This

time they were nearer the end, and after my previous experience I knew my way round. After a longish stalk we managed to crawl up to about 150 yards, but owing to the animals being in a patch of long grass, I could not see them while they were lying After some little time one got up on his haunches like a great cat, with his back to me, into which I promptly placed a Mannlicher bullet. As he fell to the shot I hoped that it had reached a vital spot, and unfortunately fired at the second lion, who was slinking off. The first lion then bounded up and made across the swamp for the long reeds, and as he did so another bullet caught him in the ribs and rolled him over. Thinking that he was secure I turned my attention again to number two, whose head was just visible, and again missed, and by this time the first lion had succeeded in crawling into the long reeds, among which he disappeared. Feeling very disappointed, I followed to the edge of the reeds in the hope of enticing him out, but as they were over our heads, I was reluctantly compelled to leave,

### A WONDERFUL LION COUNTRY 169

and returned to camp in a heavy storm drenched, cross, and very sick at my bad luck.

The following morning I took my Somali shikaris, two Askaris, and twenty porters, and went to the swamp where I had lost the lion. On arriving at the place where the animal had disappeared, I fired four shots to disturb anything which might be there, and to rouse the wounded animal if he happened to be about, so as to avoid possible mishap to my men. As nothing resulted, we formed a line of twentyfive men with five rifles, and for two hours we crashed and wallowed up and down the swamp. All we found was a spot where the lion had been very ill, and where he had vomited a large helping of undigested kongoni. wards we searched the plains, but with no better result, and eventually started for camp. On the way I shot a hartebeeste, and left it on the ground for a bait. Within two miles of camp some of my men who were behind commenced shouting, and turning round, I saw a lion galloping away. A sharp run to try and cut him off proved useless, and a couple of running

shots at over 300 yards had no effect. I followed for some distance but without success, and, like on previous occasions, I longed for some ponies.

An inspection of the bait at dawn was as fruitless as other attempts to circumvent the king of beasts, and the next day I started on my return to the Ravine. It was with a great feeling of regret that I turned my back on Mount and Lake Sirgoit, which have ever since engraved themselves deeply on my memory.

It is an absolutely untouched country where game is abundant, and where the climate is absolutely perfect. In years to come if East Africa is governed (a considerable if, perhaps) with care and consideration, I can fancy a snug township lying not very far from my camp, with thousands of cattle or perhaps sheep grazing on the extensive plains, and with acres of crops of various kinds, inhabited by a healthy and thriving population of Britons from home or from some of the Colonies. It was a rude shock to hear on returning home that this land, which should "flow with milk

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ELGEYO HILLS.

### A WONDERFUL LION COUNTRY 171

and honey," had been offered by the Foreign Office, not to our own countrymen, not to our fellow-subjects, but to the Zionists, for settlement by semi-Asiatic Semitics. Verily the Foreign Office is well named!

On the second march from Sirgoit I saw and bagged a very fair specimen of *Cobus defassa*, and a specimen which took a most extraordinary amount of lead. During the next day's march, at about 11 a.m., I reached a place where a few hours before there had been a hailstorm of exceptional severity, and when I arrived the hailstones, even then as big as sparrows' eggs, were lying about in heaps.

April 28th found me back at Ravine under the hospitable roof of Mr. Isaac. I was greatly interested in a young zebra which had been brought in on the previous day by some Masai, and which in a few days became so tame that it would follow the man who fed it round the boma.

Isaac told me that he was starting on his tour in a week, and as he hoped to strike quite fresh ground, I decided to accompany him. On

the afternoon of May 1st, Isaac and I started for Londiani, he on duty, I to procure food for my men. Londiani is a good twenty miles from Ravine, and is usually considered one long march. As, however, we had not started till late, we were not able to go very far, and camped on the way. Next morning we were walking ahead of the men, when I saw a leopard cross the road. I snatched my rifle from Osman, who was just behind, and drew a bead on the beast, who was walking slowly along in easy range. On pulling the trigger I was horrified to hear a click showing that the chamber was empty. I then worked the magazine, but too late, for the beast had heard and seen us, and had bounded into long grass where a snap-shot had no effect.

During the night we heard several shots in the direction of Mohoroni, some thirty miles distant, but never heard exactly what they were. Next morning we left Londiani early, and rode through to Ravine, Sir C. Eliot's special train, with a company of troops from Nairobi, en route for the Nandi country, which was in rather a more disturbed state than

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KAMASIA HILLS LOOKING TOWARDS BARINGO.

## A WONDERFUL LION COUNTRY 173

usual, coming through just after we had left. On May 5th I left with Isaac for a three weeks' trip into Elgeyo, and as he intended to go as far along the Kerio Valley as possible, we took in addition to our own arms thirty-five rifles, As we did not start till midday, a short march only was possible. The country was very hilly; a steeper climb for pack animals could hardly exist, and in places it was so bad that the porters had to be sent back to carry up the The next day's march led us through lovely scenery over a road which, although an improvement on the previous day, was still very bad, and we had to do "donkey wallah" ourselves most of the way. Camp was pitched in a patch of bracken on the side of a hill looking over towards Lake Baringo. third day took us to the highest point of the pass over the Kamasia hills, and as it was quite out of the question to take loaded donkeys down the almost perpendicular path on the other side, the loads had to be taken off, the men's rations which they carried with them replenished, and the remainder left in the custody of a Kamasia chief. Then we climbed the range and slid down into Elgeyo.



# CHAPTER V

#### COLLECTING HUT-TAX

A swollen river—Mutei—The Margweti and Japtaleel—Stopped by the Margweti tribe—Punitive expeditions and the administration—After elephant—A herd of buffalo—How Mutei spear buffalo—We come up to the elephant—Return to the Kerio—Bridge-building—An ingenious native custom—Hunting-dogs after our mules—More fruitless days—A murder "shauri"—Return to the ravine—Characteristics of the country—Decision to return home—A Nandi attack—Precautions with the safari—Arrival at Nakuru.

Two more marches, during which we had to cross a river with a very swift current, necessitating a rope being stretched across for the men to hold on to while carrying and passing over the loads, took us into Mutei, and forty-eight hours later we reached the extremity of the Mutei country, which was as far as we were able to go, the country beyond not



CROSSING KAMASIA HILLS INTO ELGEYO.

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being under control. Just beyond where we camped lay the country of the Margweti, a tribe closely allied to the Japtaleel, who had driven away the Government force formerly stationed in the Ribo hills, and who had not been brought under subjection, although a column had been sent up to punish them.

As soon as the Margweti heard of our arrival some of their men came in and interviewed the Mutei chiefs. They said that they were very anxious to know why we had come, and if we intended to fight. They added that they would not let us enter their territory, and threatened the Mutei with pains and penalties if they assisted us or showed us the way into Margweti. As the Mutei appeared very frightened of the Margweti and warned Isaac of the consequences if we went any farther, he did not feel justified in risking an encounter, and decided to proceed no further. The message of the Margweti was an impudent one, and it was unfortunate that Isaac had no means of or authority to uphold the prestige of the Administration. If he had gone on and successfully got in touch with the chiefs, he would no doubt have gained "kudos," but if, on the other hand, he had been opposed and lost any men, he would have been much blamed and told he had no right to go there. There was nothing to be done, therefore, but stop where we were, and as the Mutei expressed their willingness to pay hut-tax, we determined to see what game was to be found, while the chiefs collected the sheep and goats for the payment of the tax.

Kumeneen, the Mutei chief who had joined us, had previously said he would show us elephant, but now when we wanted to know where they were he professed ignorance, and it was not till he had been reminded of his promise that he and the local chief said that "they would take us to elephant to-morrow." Owing to great "shauris" on the part of the natives we did not make a start till 6.30 next morning, when our guides took us down to the Kerio River, about two hours' march from our camp. There we found fresh tracks, which we commenced to follow through very thick bush,

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MUTEI CHIEFS.

consisting chiefly of wait-a-bits and mimosa. About 11 a.m. we suddenly espied a buffalo glaring at us, but he immediately turned and bolted into the bush, and a few minutes later, just as we came into a more or less (certainly less than more) open space, we heard a tremendous crashing, and a herd of buffalo dashed past, some twelve or fifteen passing quite close, and one coming within a dozen yards before he "got our wind" and sheered off. Two at any rate had magnificent heads, and if we had been after them instead of "tembo" our day would in all probability have been successful.

The Mutei told us that these buffalo were always found in the vicinity of elephants, but although we hunted the country for a week and found fresh tracks we never saw one again. As they dashed past the Mutei took up their stations behind trees, and I saw one stab a buffalo with his long spear, the result apparently being that it penetrated just far enough to draw blood, while the blade was bent up at right angles. In another three-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tembo = elephant.

quarters of an hour we came up with the elephants, the back of a cow being visible about thirty or forty yards off. Osman crept a few yards closer to try and locate the rest of the herd, when, owing to the shiftiness of the wind, they scented us and moved off, making a great noise, but not going very far. We soon got up again, and caught a glimpse of a bull just moving behind a thick patch of bush. another minute we should have got a shot, when our guides, who had climbed a tree, started shouting (I suspect on purpose), and off went the herd, not one of them coming into view for an instant. After soundly rating the guides, we tried for some time to come up again with the herd, but it was no good, and at last we had to give them up and return to camp. The bush was terrific, it being quite impossible to move through it except on the elephant paths and in one or two small clearings.

Next day we returned to the Kerio, and as the natives professed ignorance of any means of crossing we commenced to build a bridge; and as the current was very strong, and the THE NEW YORK
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river fairly broad and deep, the task was not of the easiest. One large tree which was felled was carried bodily away for a short distance, when fortunately the top branches caught on to the opposite bank and gave us something to build to. Young trees were then cut down, the poles interlaced and fastened together, and eventually the obstacle was overcome. When we had half built our bridge we discovered how the natives used to cross. Two large trees on opposite banks had grown outwards over the water, their branches almost crossing, thus forming, with the exception of a space of some six feet, a natural though very primitive bridge; this space was bridged by means of a few branches, on which the natives crawled on hands and knees. The branches being some fifty feet above the water it was not good enough to trust one's rifles over, although one could have probably managed to crawl across oneself. When we asked the natives why they had not told us of this means of crossing, they said their "Mazay" had said they were not to do so. This was a typical instance of the unwillingness of East African natives to show elephants even when offered rewards.

Early next morning we started for the river. On the way, while I was riding a few yards ahead, I heard some barking behind me in the bush, which I at first attributed to monkeys, but it turned out to be a pack of hunting-dogs, who had evidently winded our mules; but when they saw our men they stopped and began to bark, and on Isaac dismounting and getting his rifle disappeared into the scrub.

We crossed by our bridge, and found the country on the east bank not nearly so thick as on the west. Soon we found a regular elephant road, with tracks a couple of days old, and followed this road to a large swamp, which the natives said was a favourite resort of the elephant; but finding no fresh signs, made our way back to the bridge and camp. Several more fruitless days were spent in hunting for elephants, and we twice shifted camp, but were unable to come up with either elephant or buffalo; so when the Mutei sheep and goats for payment of hut-tax had arrived we started on our return to Ravine.

MUTEI.

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Before we left, however, one little affair with the Mutei had to be fixed up. A Mutei had murdered a Kamasia, and as the murderer himself was not forthcoming blood money had to be exacted from his section of the Mutei. All kinds of excuses were made, and every effort was made by the murderer's friends to escape paying the fine; and it was not till some police were marched up and the natives told that if they did not pay then, sheep would be seized, that the fine was forthcoming. A Kamasia chief, who had come like a barrister to watch the proceedings, appeared to be very anxious "for trouble," and seemed very disappointed at a peaceful settlement being reached.

A few days' good marching took us back to Ravine without further incident.

Although this little journey had, from a sporting point of view, been very unproductive, from other standpoints it had been extremely interesting. The scenery while crossing the Kamasia hills, both going and returning, was magnificent; while from the hot, low-lying valley of the Kerio it was a

great contrast to march along under the almost precipitous cliffs of the Elgeyo escarpment, with here and there a waterfall, towering several thousand feet above, marking the edge of the Uashingeshu plateau and the high cool tablelands. The lower slopes of the Elgeyo hills on the eastern side are fairly thickly inhabited, and cultivation is carried on to a considerable extent; but the valley itself is too thick in vegetation for habitations, and only here and there are spaces cleared for "shambas." The collection of hut-tax from districts like Elgeyo and Mutei must necessarily be a most difficult task, and to make an accurate estimate of the number of huts which are perched up in most inaccessible places is well-nigh impossible.

The Elgeyo and Mutei and (I believe) the Kamasia are all more or less closely related or connected with the Nandi, and I fancy that when cattle-lifting is indulged in by Government against the Nandi, the latter frequently drive their herds into the depths of the Elgeyo forests. The Elgeyo and Mutei were all most friendly, but I hear that they

MUTEI.

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have given a little trouble since. I should be inclined to imagine, however, that the fault was not on their side.

On returning to Ravine I found that it was necessary for me to be home rather sooner that I then wished. I had intended to proceed vid the Nile, but as there was a chance of delay owing to the sleeping sickness in Uganda, and that I should have to travel too fast for sport, I decided to return to Nairobi, picking up en route one or two specimens I still required and to trust to another visit for any that might still remain.

On May 28th I said goodbye to Isaac, who had helped me so much, and who had been a most entertaining host.

Two more marches took me across the Molo and into Nakuru station. On the second day the safari had to keep well together owing to a report coming in that a small party of Nandi had attacked a caravan on the same road a few days previously.

### CHAPTER VI

#### THE RAILWAY AND HOME

Arrival at Nakuru—The attack on Mr. Hanson's caravan—Sport along the Uganda Railway—Arrival at Naivasha—Waiting for the train—A noisy night—Arrival of the Mombasa mail—We reach Nairobi—Colonial hospitality—Lord and Lady Delamere—Camp near Athi River—The Athi plains—Aggressive ticks—Dine with the Commissioner—Proceed to Makindu—A trolley ride—Arrived at Mombasa—The "Boer" contingent—Departure for home.

On arriving at Nakuru I put up at the well-found Dak Bungalow, provided by the railway, where I found a fellow-sportsman, Mr. Hanson, and a Mr. Tunstall, who had come out from Ceylon to try his luck as a settler in East Africa. I found that it was Mr. Hanson's safari that had been attacked by the Nandi, who in all probability would have desisted had a white man been with

the caravan. As it was they only secured one rifle from an Askari and bolted on the other Askaris opening fire.

Early next morning I went out to find a swamp near the railway line which was, and still is, a favourite place for lion, and having found it proceeded to drive it, but it yielded nothing, and I turned my attention to some hartebeeste which are commonly spoken of as Neumann's.<sup>1</sup>

Again I was unsuccessful, the animals being as wild as hawks. As I was returning towards the swamp I saw a yellow object, which through my glasses I made out to be a lion. We made for the spot as quickly as possible, but although we searched round for a couple of hours not a trace was to be seen.

The following day I left Nakuru, and marched to Elmenteita, shooting a Thomson's gazelle on the way (a specimen I much

<sup>1</sup> Personally I do not think these are Neumann's. There are not very many, and apparently near this place is the western limit of the range of Coke's and the eastern limit of Heuglin's. The type specimen of Neumann's came from near the north of Lake Rudolph, a very long distance from Lake Nakuru.

wanted). Gilgil was reached next day, and on the third I reached Naivasha, where I found Dr. and Mrs. Paget, from Fort Ternan, and where I made the acquaintance of Mr. Bagge, the sub-commissioner, who kindly entertained me at dinner, and promised to send an old Wandrobo guide with me to the Kedong, below Kijabe, in the hopes of heading off a herd of elephants in the act of crossing the valley.

Leaving a few of my sick porters in hospital, Dr. Paget and I started early the next morning, and made a longish march to the Kedong River, but our quest here was also unsuccessful, and after staying two nights I returned to Naivasha, where, after dining with Paget, I assumed a recumbent position on a table in the station, and tried to sleep till the arrival of the train. My wish and firm intention was to snatch a few hours of sleep, but such was not the idea of a crowd of porters and sundry other persons who had gathered under the porch of the station, each one trying to make more noise than the other. After several verbal remonstrances had proved vain, stronger

measures had to be taken, and after clearing a space round the building with the aid of two boots and a kiboko, I returned to my table, and slept in peace till nearly 3 a.m., when the train was signalled, and the noise began with renewed vigour. Punctually at 3 a.m. the Uganda-Mombasa mail steamed into the station, and shortly after we resumed our express journey (twelve miles an hour) to Nairobi, which was reached about 8 a.m. While waiting outside Messrs. George Stewart's store at Nairobi, I was found in a hungry condition by Messrs. Bowker and Chamberlain, who, like the hospitable Colonists that they are, in spite of my dishevelled appearance, insisted on my going into their house, where I was introduced to Mrs. and Miss Bowker, and where the needs of the inner man were more than attended to. Messrs. Bowker and Chamberlain were from Johannesburg looking for land, and concerning their treatment at the hands of the authorities I have dealt with in a previous book.1

At Nairobi I found Lord and Lady Dela-

<sup>&</sup>quot; British East Africa, Past, Present, and Future."

mere, the former recovering from a fall, and very anxious to take up land in the Protectorate. I only stayed two nights in the township, and then went by train to the Athi River station, where I detrained and made a camp near by. From this camp I secured the specimens I wanted of wilderbeeste, Coke's hartebeeste, Thomsonii, and the Grantii of the Athi plains.

The Athi plain, now to a large extent leased to Colonel Baillie for the purpose of catching and breaking zebras, is, or was, the resort of all who do not care to travel far from the railway, and is renowned for the number and aggressiveness of its ticks. When I was there the grass was long, and the young ticks were on every blade of grass, the consequence being that whenever we went out of our tent we were immediately covered from top to toe with these pests. Blankets, clothes, everything became full, and personally I suffered so much that when I had secured the specimens I wanted, although I could not get my mule across the Athi River. I did not wait for the train, but tramped cheerfully in to

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A SOMALL CHIRE EXTERING DIBLOUR.

Nairobi rather than risk another night with the ticks. In no country in which I have set foot have I come across anything so uncomfortable and so maddening as the ticks of the Athi. Luckily, they only extend in such numbers over a small stretch of country.

During my second stay in Nairobi, Sir Charles Eliot came up from Mombasa, and accorded me the privilege and pleasure of dining at the Commissioner's Bungalow. was glad of the opportunity of explaining to Sir Charles why I had come out without a surveyor, and of assuring him that the offer I made in London was not an idle one, but that the Foreign Office appeared to be quite content with the inaccurate maps in their possession, and were unwilling to accept private offers of adding to their geographical knowledge of the Protectorate. Sir Charles had already gained, from personal experience in travelling about, a knowledge of the country not possessed by any previous Commissioner, and he appeared fully alive to the difficulties of administering the country under the circumstances, and seemed to be greatly in sympathy with the settlers. He was certainly convinced of the necessity of a settler possessing a certain amount of capital, but his opinions were, I think, widely different from the general view taken by official East Africa.

Having a few days to spare before my boat sailed from Mombasa, I left Makindu (mile 209, on the railway), where I hoped I might possibly have the good fortune to pick up a specimen of oryx collotis, or giraffe. At Machakos I was joined by Mr. Percival, the game ranger, who was temporarily doing the work of an assistant collector instead of his own, and who was also bound for Makindu. I spent several days hunting near Makindu, but never even saw a track of the oryx. Giraffe I saw once, and after a long, stern chase came within shot of a bull, and, using the 450 cordite, missed clean. suppose I was "blown," and also must have underestimated the distance. We had had a longish tramp, and I was very cross at striking the line eight miles from Makindu instead of, as I had hoped, three or four, so it was with no small feeling of relief that I

saw, after going a couple or three miles, a trolley coming towards us, and found that Mr. Percival and Mr. Greiss, an engineer officer in charge of the line, had kindly come out to look for me. A bottle of cold tea, which they had thoughtfully brought with them, was most welcome, and a ride back on the trolley instead of on Shanks' pony was no small blessing.

Owing to a wash-out up the line, caused by heavy rains, the weekly train was delayed, and I only reached Mombasa the day before I had to leave to catch the French mail at Zanzibar. At Mombasa I found the Boer contingent fresh from Somaliland, and taking every advantage of the few luxuries to be then obtained in Mombasa. The name "Boer" contingent was given merely for the sake of using the word, for I believe among the men the real Boer burgher was conspicuous by his absence. One of the men told me there were only two. A curious incident in connection with the contingent is perhaps worth mentioning. While a team of the contingent was playing a cricket match against Mombasa I was much struck with the resemblance one of the men bore to an officer who rode into General Dickson's camp the night before the general engagement at Belfast in 1900. I afterwards asked him if he were the same man. He said "No; it must have been my twin-brother, who was shot a few days afterwards."

Next day, after being most hospitably entertained, in the absence of Sir Charles Eliot, by Mr. Bell, the Third Secretary of the Administration, I left for Zanzibar and home, wondering how many—or, rather, how few—months would elapse before I could return to East Africa.

# BRITISH EAST AFRICA

(SECOND TRIP)

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## BRITISH EAST AFRICA

## CHAPTER I

#### LONDON TO ELDAMA RAVINE

Departure from London with Lady Hindlip—The Burgermeister — Dr. Jensen—Arrival at Kilindini — Collecting my caravan—An Askari's outfit—An officious
transport officer—By train to Nairobi—Red dust
from the desert—The Uganda Railway—Defective
rolling-stock—The Masonic Hotel, Nairobi—Purchase mules—Completing the outfit—The special
train—Trouble with porters—Development along
the line—Arrival at Nakuru—I send the caravan
ahead—Equator Ranch—A magnificent view—My
Arab ponies—Lord Delamere's sawmill—My dogs
and the coolies—I rejoin the caravan—Sufferings of
the men—The new station at Ravine—Guides for the
forest—A malingerer.

It was on May 10, 1905, that Lady Hindlip and myself left London for my second visit to East Africa. This time we chose the German East Africa Line, and embarked at Naples on May 17th on board the *Burgermeister*,

6,000 tons, a very comfortable ship and a good sea-boat. Dr. Jensen accompanied me as doctor. At Aden I had hoped to pick up my Somalis, but hearing at Port Said that there was quarantine at that port I telegraphed to my agents to send them on to Mombasa.

Kilindini was reached on June 1st, and Mr. Sim (of Messrs. Smith, Mackenzie) kindly put us up in the firm's comfortable house, where there is always a breeze, and where mosquitoes are not. We had to spend three days in Mombasa, collecting my headman, Nubi, who, with the cook, had been with me before, my Somalis, personal boys, and a dozen Askaris, and fitting them out with the various articles required by the regulations. When Askaris, whose duty it is to look after porters, make camp-fires, keep guard at night, &c., are engaged at Mombasa they have to be supplied with a pair of boots, a suit of khaki, a jersey, two blankets, and a water-bottle. The transport officer, who was determined to show that he existed, duly inspected them to see that they had everything they wanted, insisted on knowing where they were going, and even the name of the railway station where we would leave the line, and asked what they were going to be fed on. On being told that I should feed them on what I could buy, he said, "Oh no; that won't do!" and then inquired of the Askaris whether they would be satisfied without rice. As they had been selected by my headman, and knew exactly where they were going and what they would get to eat, they naturally replied in the affirma-I felt very much inclined to ask this busy official if they would want fresh eggs for breakfast, or if they had to prove that their mothers allowed them to go out. The regulations here present a great contrast to those in force at Nairobi, where the men employed on the same work get a jersey and two blankets, which is quite sufficient for their requirements.

Everything being ready, we left Mombasa by train on June 4th, arriving at Nairobi next day. A most objectionable feature of the journey is the red dust from the desert that is always a nuisance, and will continue to be so until the whole of the line is properly ballasted with stone. The rolling-stock on the Uganda Railway is not only in a very poor condition, but there is not enough for the requirements of the traffic, with the result that carriages which need repair often cannot be spared to go to the workshops, however badly they need it. The line must suffer from the inferior rolling-stock, and, especially as the railway now begins to pay expenses, it seems false economy not to spend money on good rolling-stock, and so risk damaging the permanent way.

At Nairobi we put up at the Masonic Hotel, kept by Mr. and Mrs. Rayne, two energetic New Zealanders, who have made the most of the building, and do all in their power for the comfort of their guests. Here I was able to pick up, for £23 each, three mules who were at the time of purchase in very poor condition, but soon came round with proper food. At Nairobi I gave the final touches to my caravan, porters had to be engaged, blankets served out, and the hundred and one matters connected with a shooting trip had to be attended to Porters having been registered and everything ready on June 8th, men and stores were on the platform waiting for a special train, which

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RAILWAY BY SAW MILL (MILE 476).

Stopping a Train.

proved to be the second portion of the regular Here our troubles began. For some reason or other an iniquitous system of advancing a month's pay to porters on engagement has become almost an unwritten law. Where, as in Somaliland, this is done properly before an official, and where a deserter would be caught, no doubt the system has its merits, but where there is no chance of catching a porter who bolts with his kit and a month's pay the night after receiving it, the custom has nothing to commend it. Having had some little experience of this sort of thing, I had not given an advance to any of the porters, who now at the last moment demanded their pay. But they had waited too long to obtain their own way entirely, and as the station gates were fastened I threatened the ringleaders with dire consequences, but promised them half a month's wages in the train. To this they were inclined to demur, but they were bundled into the train and the doors unceremoniously locked, and their pay doled out at various stations along the line.

All along the line great strides had been

made since my journey down eleven months before; snug bungalows nestled among the trees, while everywhere were cultivated plots, ploughed land, and evidences of the progress that had been made in the development of the country. At dinner-time we reached Nakuru. where the trains wait during the night so as to go over viaducts in daylight. We turned out at Njoro by the light of a lantern at 5.30 next morning, while Dr. Jensen and the caravan continued their journey to Londiani, where we were to join them in about a week's time. After a cup of very welcome tea provided by the stationmaster, Lady Hindlip and I climbed into one of Lord Delamere's mule-carts, and by 8 a.m. had covered the seven miles or so between the station and his estate, Equator Here we found Lord Delamere Ranche. established in his temporary buildings, which included most comfortable living and sleeping huts made of grass, with corrugated iron roofs to keep out the wet and grass over the iron to keep it cool. Here also were the smithy in charge of an Indian blacksmith, a carpenter's shop also presided over by an Indian, stables,

store huts, tying posts for training bullocks, and a fenced yard for milking the cows. The front of the estate looking north towards Lake Baringo commanded a magnificent view of the Molo Valley and Baringo, with Laikipia to the east, and Londiani and Mau Forest to the west. I had had sent out from India three Arab ponies, which Lord Delamere had most kindly kept for me till our arrival, and their condition spoke volumes for the care he had taken of them. Several pleasant days were spent at Equator Ranche, the results of experiments with the crossing of the native sheep and cattle with imported stock being intensely interesting. From here we drove to the saw mill, at mile 476 on the railway, which had been started by Lord Delamere and Dr. Atkinson. The engine and saw bed were then out in the open, but their appearance a few months later was very different, two engines being snugly enclosed in houses made of the wood they had cut, while a regular output had commenced.

On the road from the Equator Ranch to the saw mill, we passed under a railway viaduct

which a number of Indian coolies were busily engaged in painting, and unfortunately my dogs espied a goat belonging to some of them and went straight for it. From the noise and excitement which followed one might have imagined that the bridge was about to collapse, for down the coolies all came like a troop of baboons, and carried off the animal, which had been rescued with much difficulty, to ascertain the extent of its injuries. These were not very severe, but the incident cost me five rupees.

Next day we reached Londiani, where we found our safari suffering from the cold; one Askari had died of pneumonia, and a wretched Wakamba porter had to be sent down to the hospital at Nakuru by the first train. Here I found awaiting me my donkeys, which had been ordered from home, and flour for the men.

In the afternoon of June 17th we left the line and started for Eldama Ravine and the magnificent country of the Uashingeshu Plateau; a short march only was possible that day, and Ravine was reached on the next. The station certainly had not changed for the better since THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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THE NEW BOMA AT ELIDAMA RAVINE. Soudaness Police drawn up in foreground.

I last saw it. A new house had been built for the officer in charge, but it was a hideous erection of corrugated iron, cold and draughty at night and hot in the daytime. It had been built in the centre of the station, where it was surrounded by fine gum-trees, which completely shut out the magnificent view formerly obtained from the old boma, which was now relegated to the clerk. Mr. and Mrs. Foaker, who were most kind, had only been there a very short time, Mr. Foaker being the third officer placed in charge since Isaac's departure on leave ten months ago. The garden, in which Isaac took so much pride and which did him such infinite credit, had half disappeared; but what could be expected with a new man every two months? I had to stop a day at Ravine to obtain a guide to take us through the forest, also to finally fill up with flour. As usual, the guides were late, and it was not till 8 a.m. that we got away from camp, my old guide of the previous year coming down with the local chief to see us off. Before we had gone a mile from camp a Kikuyu porter, who rejoiced in the name of

"Kiboko," and who, owing to his being a shirker, had been given a very light load, fell down groaning, and said he was far too sick to go on. Having ascertained that he had no temperature he was "moved on," whereupon some of his "friends" came up laughing and told me that he had eaten half a goat the night before, and then boasted of how soon he would be back again in Nairobi with a month's pay and his nice new blankets. I had already given out half a month's pay at Ravine and a jersey and blankets, but on hearing of this incident Nubi promptly secured the malingerer's rupees and also one blanket to guard against his deserting. We knew that once well away from Ravine he dare not bolt, being far too scared of Nandi and Wandrobo, not to speak of the excellent chance he would run of being lost in the dense forest. "Kiboko," who proved an unmitigated nuisance throughout the whole trip, was then driven along amid the jeers of the other porters, who obligingly added light but bulky articles to his load.

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CARAVAN ON UNDULATING GRAZING DOWNS ON UASINGESHU PLATEAU.

## CHAPTER II

### EXPERIENCES ROUND SIRGOIT

Composition of the safari—A herd of roan—Bad swamps—A lost dog—A Boer camp—The settlers' plans—A Nandi raid—Arrived at Sirgoit—Disappointment—Lady Hindlip's first trophy—Despatch of a food party—A lion hunt—An exciting charge—A narrow shave—A plucky pony—Return of the food party—A gorgeous flower display.

WHEN we left Ravine the safari consisted of some 80 porters, 12 Askaris, 5 Somalis, 3 Masai, the headman, boys, syces, 4 ponies, 3 mules, 3 dogs, 12 donkeys, together with some cows and calves, the latter and 2 ponies having been most kindly lent by Lord Delamere. Sirgoit was to be our first halting-place to shoot, the track thither through the forest being the same that I had followed on the previous expedition. The first march was a

longish one, and the caravan did not reach camp till five, some of the donkeys not arriving till after dark. As the men were very soft and tired, and the donkeys had had no time to graze, a late start was made next morning, and camp pitched at a spot where I had seen roan on my previous trip. That afternoon I had a good walk round, but without finding the herd, and I returned to camp to find that Dr. Jensen had shot one with an inferior head, not knowing what they were. Early next day, starting off to try and discover a fair head. I soon found the herd and followed it for some distance, but as I could not see an animal worth shooting, I left them alone, returned to camp, and marched. of the opinion that this particular herd of roan has become partially a forest animal, and that perhaps that has an effect upon the growth of the horns. The whole herd cannot be young animals, and neither year that I saw them was there a shootable head to be seen. This time I found them coming out of a belt forest in the early morning, and afterwards when I showed myTHE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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CARAVAN ON FRINGE OF ELGEYO FOREST.

To face p. 207.

self they made a bee-line for the dense forest again.

Two streams, and a very thick patch of forest, through which a road had to be cut for the donkeys, caused some delay in our progress, and camp was not reached till 4.30 in the afternoon. Tents were pitched on the slope of a hill facing a picturesque patch of wood, and from this camp I was able to show Lady Hindlip her first rhino. During the next two days the country traversed was much the same, bad swamps causing much trouble, as the donkeys had often to be unloaded, their loads carried across, and then loaded up again. The second day one of my dogs disappeared. He was an attractive beast of unknown pedigree, chiefly bull terrier, who had come out of a mining district in England, and probably had been the recipient of more kicks than ha'pence, but he took an enormous fancy to us, and would always lie at the entrance to the tent, proving a most effective guard. He had twice before been lost owing to his obstinacy in refusing to follow when hot and tired. This time I missed

him in the middle of the march, and although I sent a mounted Somali back to look for him, no trace was found, and probably he formed the meal of a leopard. I keenly felt the loss of this animal, for it seemed such hard lines that, having at last found some one who treated him kindly, he should come to such an untimely end. Our start in the morning was delayed by rain, and after the usual trouble with swamps, we camped in the afternoon near the home of three Boers. who, like so many of their countrymen, prefer to settle miles from neighbours or settlements. After our camp was chosen, I walked up to their house, and found one of the settlers-a Mr. Van Breda-at work in the shamha. Mr. Van Breda, whose two friends had gone into Nandi for flour, told me they had come up to this region having been attracted by the grazing, climate, and possibilities for stock, and dilated at length on the attractiveness of the plateau in general. had so far done nothing, and said that they were not going to get stock till a Government post was established somewhere in

### EXPERIENCES ROUND SIRGOIT 209

vicinity, as they were afraid that if they did so they would be raided.

A longish march next day took us to Sirgoit, where we were caught in a thunderstorm, and as our guide did not know of the little lake, and I had lost my bearings of a year ago, we were some little time wandering round before striking the lake. I pitched camp in almost the same place as the previous year, but my hopes of good sport with the lions disappeared as I noted that the grass was very long and the rains were not over. Our first day's hunting resulted in Lady Hindlip bagging her first Heuglin's hartebeeste, while as I visited my old swamp without success. I shot another, whose carcase I left out for a bait. Owad and Aidid, my first and second shikaris, were sent off on ponies before daylight to examine the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I see in an East African paper that these fears were realised. These gentlemen, no doubt tired of waiting for Government, and anxious to collect a head of stock, purchased some cattle. The Nandi, after several unsuccessful attempts, not only raided and carried off their cattle, but also inflicted serious injuries on one of the settlers, whom they left for dead.

kill, and at the same time a food party was despatched to Mutei, under the direction of the Masai guide, to purchase flour or grain for our men and ponies.

While waiting for the shikaris to return, I went up a small hill near camp, and looking round through my glasses, I spotted three lions slinking away from the lake (where they evidently had been drinking), no doubt on their return to some lair to sleep during the heat of the day. I attracted the attention of Darod Nur, Lady Hindlip's shikari, and told him to saddle the remaining ponies. Luckily at that moment Owad and Aidid were seen returning, and in a very short time I had Aidid and Bodley mounted and ready to round up the lions while I with Owad and Darod started to try and find them. some time we hunted about in a nullah, up which we thought they must have gone, but could find no trace, and I began to fear that we should not find them.

Aidid and the skin-man, Bodley Warsama (who had been with me in Abyssinia), were then told off with the ponies to scour the

plain in front of us, and with the usual Somali yells and whoops they galloped off in a state of high excitement. For some time they were lost to sight and we tramped in the direction they had taken, till presently Bodley galloped furiously back and said that they had cornered one lion, but that the other two had got clear away. Hurrying to the spot indicated, we came in sight of the Somalis on their ponies shouting and irritating the lion, which we could hear growling savagely in the long grass. Having made out more or less where the animal was, we carefully went forward and got on a low ant-heap, from the top of which I had a fair view of the beast, which turned out to be a lioness. I was carrying a Ross straight pull '370 magazine, while Owad had a 400 Jeffery cordite, and Darod a Paradox by Purdey. We were only about sixty yards or less distant from our quarry, but, probably owing to the excitement, and to the fact that I was blown from my walk, my first shot missed clean. My second, better aimed, caught the lioness in the lungs, whereupon she began

running round and round in a circle, biting at her flanks and growling and snarling furiously. At this critical moment Owad and Darod foolishly let drive, and, as was to be expected, missed. Then she saw us and promptly charged. It was a fine sight to see her lithe body with head and tail out and lips drawn back from the teeth, charging through the long grass, while we three fools solemnly missed her. Matters had now become decidedly serious, for the Somalis' rifles were empty, and mine was not a very heavy one for the work in hand. Waiting till I felt I could not miss the mark. I let drive at the shoulder of the advancing animal. As I pulled the trigger I jumped to my left, and at that moment the lioness passed between Owad and myself, sending us spinning in different directions: I found myself sitting up facing the animal in her death throes, a dozen yards away, while an inch of dirt had plugged up the muzzle of my rifle. Owad had already picked himself up, while Darod the imperturbable apparently had not moved a step, but was no doubt, with Owad, as glad as I was that

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### EXPERIENCES ROUND SIRGOIT 21

the incident was over, and that we were all unhurt. Aidid and Bodley, who had galloped up to the animal as she charged, were now examining the skin. It was a narrow shave, for the lioness had come between Owad and myself, knocking us both down, though I think that, as my bullet smashed her off shoulder and penetrated the heart, she must have been powerless from the moment I pulled the trigger. She was a very fair specimen, and in capital condition. Lady Hindlip had been watching the incident from the top of a hill, and had seen all except the lioness. I sent ponies back for her and for our cameras, and photographed the body before skinning, One of the horses, an Arab stallion which the Somalis called Ainop Hūt, proved himself to be an excellent pony, for although he came suddenly within a few yards of the lioness before she was shot, he never showed a sign of fear. As I had the whole of the afternoon to dress the skin, I was able to get out early the next day, and spent a long and fruitless morning looking for lions. About midday I

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Somali for "Black Flyer."

spied a rhino with a very fair horn, and managed to secure it without much trouble, a 400 on the shoulder and a couple of shots from the '370 as it ran off proving sufficient. The horn measured 26 inches, but it had looked longer from a distance. The carcase was left out for bait, but had not been touched next morning when we turned up to photograph it. We then climbed Karuna, a bare hill, from the far side of which Aidid galloped after a cheetah without any success. hopes of finding lions at the remains of the rhino, I was again on the spot soon after daylight next morning, and heard roaring not far away. The ponies made a circle round, but discovered nothing. Eventually we found a fair-sized swamp where fresh tracks of lion were abundant, and searched all the bushes and likely places round, but it was too late, as the lions had all retreated into the swamp for the day. I sat for some time considering whether I should come and camp close to or whether I should leave Sirgoit and try the bush beyond. As I could not drive the swamp I decided not to camp there but

after I got into camp the food party from Mutei returned, but with very little grain. They told me that it was very fortunate I had sent the Masai with them, as when the Mutei people saw them they turned out in full force and the Masai had to go forward and explain what they had come for. In the afternoon I climbed Sirgoit and obtained a wonderful view of the whole plateau. On the way I shot a hartebeeste, whereupon two Wandrobo promptly appeared, and on returning to camp said they would show me giraffe and elephant.

There were a number of flowers round our camp at Sirgoit, among them what appeared to be a white geranium, smilax, asparagus fern, a red and yellow lily, jessamine with red-backed petals and red buds, a kind of red-hot poker plant, while not far away were to be found yellow gladioli, red and yellow broom, lupins, and a mauve stonecrop, having a most delicious smell.

# CHAPTER III

### AFTER FIVE-HORN GIRAFFE

Towards the giraffe bush—Catching a baby zebra—We see giraffe—Camp in the bush—Stalking the five horned giraffe—Flour running short—Mount Chib-charagnani—A mysterious Mzungu—The camp—An unfortunate omission—A midnight alarm—An attack by lions—I lose three mules—An unhappy camp.

ON July 2nd we moved camp from the pretty little valley leading to the lake, and, led by the Wandrobo, struck across the plain in a north-westerly direction towards the fringe of the bush country, where I had been led to believe we should come across the five-horned giraffe.

On the march the Somalis persuaded me to try and catch a young zebra which we saw among a large herd, and, accompanied by Aidid, I started off in pursuit. Although my little Somali pony was a very good one, he could not live with Ainop, and I had to content myself in heading and turning the herd. Presently, after a quite exciting chase of a mile or two, we cut the "toto" out from its companions, but even then it managed to give us quite a chase before Aidid, leaning over from his mount, caught the panting little beast by the tail. An improvised halter was made out of a rein, and the captive was led back in triumph to the caravan.

As we were entering the bush country we saw three giraffe stalking majestically across our line of march, but as I did not know whereabouts camp would be they were allowed to go their way in peace. Shortly afterwards we came on a large head of hartebeests feeding or drinking at a small lick or swamp, and as they were altogether, I was able to secure a photograph with a panorama camera. Very soon after our guides showed some waterholes near some old huts, which had probably belonged to the Wandrobo, and near here camp was pitched.

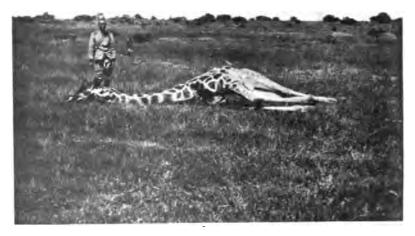
On the following morning, with my Somalis,

the guides, and a couple of ponies, I started in search of the coveted animal. I was using my glasses from the top of some rising ground when I caught sight of the head and neck of a solitary bull quietly feeding, perhaps a mile away. We made a long detour to get the right way of the wind, and then Owad and I proceeded to stalk. A long crawl brought us into a patch that was too open to cross, and as the animal began to move off I sent Owad back for the ponies, while I tried to keep my eye on the retreating quarry. As soon as the ponies arrived ("Hamar," a bay Arab stallion from India, and a small Boran pony) we trotted off in pursuit, but directly we came in view the giraffe made off, while we pushed him as hard as possible. as we were getting on terms Owad take an imperial crowner through his pony putting a foot in a hole, but, luckily, no damage was done, and he was up as soon as his mount. Meanwhile I had got up pretty close, and, as my pony began to stick his toes in and refuse to go nearer to the weird monster, I jumped off near a conTHE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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AUTHOR ON AINOP HUT. Lady Hindlip's favourite pony.



FIVE-HORNED GIRAFFE.

To face p. 219.

venient ant-hill and placed a couple of '370 solids into the giraffe's quarters. My pony, however, had not thought fit to wait while I fired, so leaving him to be captured by Owad, who was coming up behind, I plodded on after the wounded animal. As I was puffing along I saw sixteen or more giraffe of both sexes and all sizes appear from out of some depression and look back at my solitary bull, who tried to follow, but seeing that I was in the direction he would have to go turned off again. By this time Owad had come up with both the ponies, and remounting, I was soon within shot, and a couple more bullets brought the long-coveted species to the ground. Aidid and the Wandrobo were not long in finding us, and on their arrival I sent Aidid back to camp on the Boran pony to fetch some men for skinning. In about an hour and a half he returned very pleased with himself at having caught a second young zebra single-handed and taken it to camp. Lady Hindlip soon appeared with cameras, &c., and the porters, too, began to turn up, most of them eager at the prospect of what they imagined would

be unlimited meat. The process of skinning being finished, I at first attempted to carry the skin back to camp, but, being afraid of rubbing the hair off, decided to leave it where it was, well covered with thorns as a protection from wild beasts, and told off Darod Nur, three Askaris, and a few porters to look after it while we returned to camp, and next morning moved over to where we had left the skin. In the afternoon my wife and I with Owad and the ponies tried to find some more giraffe, but as we did not come on any till too late to do any good, returned to camp without disturbing them. When we got back we found that some of the Wakamba porters had caught two jackals and had fastened them to a log in the middle of camp with the dogs' collars and chains; they were pretty little brutes, and I kept them to see if they would get at all tame.

The first thing next morning Lady Hindlip and I, with the ponies and three Somalis, went in the direction where the giraffe had been seen the previous evening, and found that they had not moved very far away.

After a council of war we decided to gallop the herd and single one out, A. riding her favourite "Ainop," Owad "Hamar," and I the little Somali pony. As the country was favourable we were able to get up fairly close before the animals were alarmed, and then the fun began. In a very few minutes they led us out of the bush into practically open plain with bush only here and there, so that the riding was good and we were able to see the whole herd plainly. The best bull in the herd, which numbered twenty to twenty-five, was singled out, and luckily separated from his companions. At this moment my hat flew off, and I pulled up for a minute while the chase continued. Presently I heard a couple of shots, and coming up I put in a '370 at long range, while Aidid appearing on the spare pony, followed and finished the bull off. A measurement, certainly not erring on the side of exaggeration, made him 17 feet 3 inches from the top of his head to his feet, an old bull with very few teeth, but with beautiful markings, and in capital condition. question of shooting giraffe is often raised,

and held by many to be unnecessary and unsportsmanlike. In my opinion it depends upon how it is done, and how many are killed; if they are killed in numbers solely for the sake of killing, or for the value of their hides, then it is monstrous. Let those who say they would never kill a giraffe follow one on foot through either long grass or under a hot sun in a dry country, or gallop after one on horseback at top speed through bush and over ground full of holes, and they will not, I think, speak so lightly. Although there can never be the same excitement over stalking or chasing a harmless animal as a savage one, still there is considerably more than a spice of danger in riding after giraffe in any country, and especially where the bush is at all thick. There is no time to look out for holes, for all attention is required to keep an eye on the giraffe, while one hand is on the reins and the other on the rifle. The dodging of trees and bushes, avoiding branches, swerving out of reach of thorns, or crashing through them in the wake of the quarry (and woe betide the rider if they are a little too strong) all call for

a certain amount of skill and endurance, and afford quite enough chance of at least a nasty spill. Although my experience of hunting giraffe on horseback has been limited to these two occasions. I must confess that I have seldom felt a more pleasing sense of exhilaration than when galloping full speed after these beautiful, uncanny monsters, and the feeling of pity at seeing such a magnificent creature lying dead was (as always is the case with me with a new species) counteracted by the knowledge that one more coveted specimen is added to my collection. I should certainly not be speaking the truth if I said I never wished to kill another giraffe. I should like to possess, as a result of my own exertions, a specimen of each of the different acknowledged forms of giraffidæ, of which I think the five-horned giraffe, Camelopardus rothschildi, is certainly the most magnificent of any I have seen either in a museum, zoological gardens, or in their own wild state. The question of game preservation is one about which I shall have something to say later, but it is a curious thing that a very large number of persons, who are

so anxious to put difficulties in the way of sportsmen adding to their collections, have either taken more than their toll of game, males, females, and immature; or else those who know nothing about the business, but who happen to be in a position to dictate. For the gunner or the man who goes out once for a shoot, and does not care what he gets as long as he can let his gun off, I have no pity or sympathy, and I should like to see his depredations stopped altogether.

Sir E. Lechmere, in the Field of April 15, 1905, says: "Criticisms by sportsmen on the country and its government, however fair they may be, are not calculated to please officials, and, as a consequence, minor concessions which would have been willingly granted some time back, are now withheld, and the letter of the law more strictly adhered to." This strikes me as distinctly humorous. Does Sir E. Lechmere hold a brief for an official who objects to criticism? Perhaps some personal grievance is behind this, and minor concessions, such, perhaps, as permission to shoot in what should be a strictly preserved district,

may now be withheld, simply for fear that some evil-minded busybody may hear of it, and want to know the why and wherefore. Public criticism is a great safeguard, and the right to criticise within limits should be as jealously guarded as is the freedom of the press. The law is the law, and should be enforced, not merely from fear of criticism. I hope Sir E. Lechmere has not aroused the wrath of any one by stating that the natives are pampered by legislation. I thoroughly agree with him, but is not this criticism? But to come back to my story.

The paring down and drying of a giraffe skin is a very long business, and, except in a dry country and in dry weather, a very troublesome one. When I had got the skins well pared down, I had platforms erected and stretched the skins out on them, covering them up, of course, at night or when it was raining. We stayed seven days in this camp which, under ordinary circumstances, would have been long enough to dry the skins thoroughly, but as at some time or other rain fell almost every day, a week was hardly

sufficient for the purpose. But I was afraid of running short of flour, and as a party I had sent to the natives on Mount Chibcharagnani had not been able to purchase very much, I was more or less obliged to risk matters and move on. The food-party told me on their return that the inhabitants of Chibcharagnani were Margweti people, who were very anxious to know where the white man was, for no doubt they had heard from the Wandrobo that I had some cows.

I was surprised to hear that the evilly disposed Margweti inhabited the western slopes of the mountain, for my Wandrobo had distinctly told me that the natives there were good people and not Margweti, into whose country I should not, if I had known it, have sent my men. My people also brought the news that a "Mzungu" (white man) was living up in that region, but that he was down in Kavirondo at the time. This foreigner may have been a Goanese or a low-class white man or Greek, who may have found his way up there unknown to any one.

The day the food-party left for Chibcha-

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ragnani I came in somewhat late in the evening, and forgot to see that the gaps formed by the absent men's tents had been filled up and that fires were properly lit. I always pitched our own tents in the middle of the camp with the animals all in view of the verandah, and made the men place their tents in a circle round the whole with fires outside, and a large camp fire in the centre. The ponies were in tents, the mules tethered in front of them, while the cows were always put in a zareba and watched by the Masai, Wandrobo and a Wakamba porter.

About midnight I was suddenly awakened by shouts and yells of my people and a stampede of the mules. Thinking at first that it was only a hyena or two prowling about, I told the men to go and catch the mules, but as they kept shouting "Simba, Simba" (Swahili for lion), and as the Somalis said the same, I turned out to see what had really happened. I found pandemonium reigned supreme. The mules had gone, the porters were scared to death, and worse than all, the Askaris were grabbing their rifles! I

soon learnt that a lion had crept into the middle of the camp, had sprung on the back of one of the mules, and literally ridden it out of camp over one of the porter's tents, while the other two terrified mules broke their ropes and bolted, but fortunately the ponies, which were in tents, paid little or no attention. every side could be heard the grunts and growls of lions, of which there must have been at least half a dozen, while every hyena and jackal for miles round must have come to assist in lending their voices to the din. I could hear lions quarrelling over one mule, and even hear them tearing the poor beast to pieces, but nothing could be done, so when the men had become a little calmer, I returned to bed till just before dawn, when I went down to see if the lions were still about. that remained was the skull and tail and a few bones of my unfortunate mule, all within 250 yards of camp. I searched the country with ponies, and sent parties out to look for the remaining mules, but I could never stumble on the lions, although one day two of the Somalis galloped into camp with the news

that they had seen a troop of seven lions. turned out at once but did not find them. fear the other mules must have been pulled down and eaten too, for I never found a trace of them, but as I never saw any birds hovering and never found any carcases, they may possibly have got away scot free. Needless to say, after this episode I took good care that a zareba was built round camp, and that more fires were lit, but it was a case of locking the stable door after the horse, or in this case the mules, had gone. This incident led to rather a good story being told in Nairobi and other towns, to the effect that I had lost all my animals, and that we were tramping the country on foot, also that I had shot five giraffe, which perhaps caused some mouths to water. Unfortunately, for the storyteller and his believers, neither yarn was true. this unfortunate camp one of my two remaining dogs, an uninteresting lurcher, died of some internal trouble. I also lost a fine young cross-bred bull, and a mastiff who succumbed to distemper. This dog was carried into camp in a blanket slung on two

poles, and I kept him alive for a while on strychnine, whiskey, and soup, but could not pull him round. Perhaps he would have recovered if I could have given him a few more days' rest.

One point in favour of this unhappy camp was the fact that mushrooms grew in large quantities. We picked them twice a day, and very welcome they were, as our stock of potatoes was running short.

## CHAPTER IV

#### THROUGH SWAMPS AND FLOODS

Departure from the ill-fated camp—We strike north-west—
Stopped by the flooded Nzoia—Suspicious Wandrobo
More bridge-building—A rubber-tree—Turned back
by swamps—Discover a new route—Elephant traps—
A successfully constructed bridge—Heavy rain—A
herd of elephants—Charged by two elephants—
Deceived by my Somali—Descent to the caravan
route—A magnificent panorama—Camping in Uganda
—A Karamojo matron—A suspicious Swahili trader.

On July 11th, having found no trace of mules, the food-party having returned and the giraffe skins being fit to travel, we left our ill-fated camp, and struck off in a north-west direction to try and hit off the caravan road which crossed the Turkwell River at the north-east corner of Mount Elgon. We had now an additional member of our safari, as the Masai, who was now no use as a guide, had

bought a wife from one of the two Sirgoit Wandrobo who had left us. We had not gone very far when we had to camp owing to rain, as I was afraid of wetting the giraffe skins. Next day we were pulled up short by a river, an affluent of the Nzoia, which had to be bridged, an operation which took about a couple of hours. All the animals crossed very successfully with the exception of a stupid cow, which put one leg through a weak part in the structure, and had to be hauled up again. Here I had to stop for a day to further dry the skins, and Dr. Jensen secured a very fine waterbuck, Cobus defassa (311 inches), and a rhino. While hunting from this camp I came across a couple of natives, whom I took for Wandrobo or Margweti people, who had wounded a waterbuck and were following it up. Each carried kindled sticks in their hands, but they would have nothing to do with us, and kept edging away. They carried an arrow fitted to the strings of their bows, and motioned us to keep our distance, at the same time picking up grass and throwing it at us to show that

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they did not wish to quarrel, but had no desire to make a closer acquaintance.

The next march brought us to another tributary of the Nzoia, which also had to be bridged, and near here I found some kind of rubber-bearing tree, but of what species I do not know. We were now off the actual Uashingeshu Plateau, and for the last three marches had been in undulating, well-watered, and in places very swampy country. predominating feature in this district was a standard-shaped tree or shrub bearing a large white double flower with a bud which reminded me rather of a magnolia. The grass was of a much coarser and ranker description than the beautiful grazing on the plateau itself. After two more marches, during which I saw some more giraffe, and had to cross several bad swamps, we came upon yet a third river, which must have been a tributary of the Nzoia, or perchance the river itself. We crossed it, and in the afternoon I shot a very fair waterbuck, and discovered that the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I believe of little value, although the natives called it a rubber-tree.

country beyond was practically impassable, and that a road round the slopes of the hills to the east would have to be found. As amateur engineering had begun to pall, I determined to call a halt. Recrossing the river next day Lady Hindlip and I, with the Somalis, made a detour to avoid the stream with the object of trying to find if any other route was available. We were much more successful than I expected, for within an hour we struck a native or traders' track leading practically in the direction we wished to go. We followed this for some way, and ascertained that it was very likely to be most useful. Here I was able to get a waterbuck, and also to add to the collection of butterflies. We saw no fresh elephant tracks, but elephant traps were fairly numerous in this district. These traps are pits some 8 feet long, 6 deep, by 4 at the top, narrowing down to 2 feet at the bottom, so that a body falling in could become firmly wedged, and the animal would be at the mercy of the first-comer. we returned to camp we found that Nubi had been at work on the bridge, and when we

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left the following morning we were able to drive our animals over without taking off their loads—a great feat. A five hours' march took us to our camping-place, where we could see very large numbers of waterbuck feeding in the open swampy plain, but, unfortunately, with the river and an enormous swamp between us. Here (with the exception of a thunderstorm near Elgon) we had the heaviest rain that we encountered anywhere. The next swamp which had to be crossed was a terror. Luckily it was not boggy, but as it had to be waded through in the early morning, and was considerably over our knees, it was most unpleasant, and certainly does not form a very cheering reminiscence.

Elephant tracks were very numerous round these parts, but they were all old, while other game, with the exception of the waterbuck, was very scarce.

After marching for some five and a half hours next day we were waiting near water for the caravan to come up, when Jensen's gunbearer, who had strolled on a short distance, came back in a very excited condition and reported a herd of elephants, and presently one or two came into view in the distance. this time the head of the safari appeared, and after securing a few more cartridges and leaving Lady Hindlip in charge, with orders to keep strict silence and pitch no tents while anything was in sight, I started in pursuit with the three Somali shikaris. For some time we were at fault, for, as we found out afterwards, the herd had divided, and we did not know which tracks to follow. In about an hour we suddenly heard them blowing and moving about, and as the grass was very long Owad and Darod were sent up trees to see what they were like and to report which was the Darod came down last, and declared that he had seen one good bull; and as he was so positive I foolishly did not make any further investigation.

We had to be very careful of the wind while approaching, but managed to get within about thirty yards. The supposed big tusker, whose head was hidden behind a bush, was pointed out, and a right and left from the '450 on the shoulder had the desired effect, while we lay

# THROUGH SWAMPS AND FLOODS 237

down in the long grass, hoping that the remainder of the herd would run away. With one exception they did as we expected, but not very quietly. The exception ran screaming up to the dying animal, and then lumbered up in our direction. Unfortunately at this juncture one of my boys did not lay doggo, but got up and bolted a few yards, whereupon the beast winded and saw him as he ran, and then charged. Aidid and I were between the boy and the elephant, and had no alternative but to protect ourselves. My first '450 caught it at the top of the trunk, shutting it up after the fashion of a telescope, while another in the same place and a couple of '400's in the body from Aidid laid the animal out stone dead within a very few yards of where we stood. Then, and not till then, did I discover the enormity I had committed. Both were cows. In the case of the last animal it was force majeur, but the fate of the first was my fault. Although it was my first elephant, I had no business to take for granted my boy's word that it was a fine bull, even though I trusted him implicitly. I do not believe any native can resist the temptation to kill, and am of opinion that most would try and persuade their "sahib" to shoot his own pony if they thought they could eat and enjoy it. However, as a Somali would not eat elephant meat if he could get anything else, I am not sure now that I was wilfully deceived. I cut off the tails and returned to camp, sick and ashamed of myself for having been an idiot, and for the second time in my short shooting career having killed a female of a species badly in need of protection.

An hour's march next day sufficed to take the safari to the dead elephants, which were more or less on the line of march; and in another couple of hours the tusks were out, and what feet and meat were wanted were ready for porterage. How the Wakamba and Kikuyu revelled in the masses of flesh! two of the men even getting inside one of the bodies so as to be able to cut away the interior economy and get at more fat. For a short time we marched along a high ridge, and then began to descend on to the caravan road from Mumias, passing one or two old camps, which

CUTTING UP AN ELEPHANT.

Note two men inside the carcase.

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I think belonged to a Greek who had taken heavy toll of the elephants.

Presently we struck the road, or rather track, which began to descend rapidly to the valley of the Turkwell. From these slopes, and from the tops of the hills from which we had descended, we obtained one of the most magnificent views of its kind in the world.

To the east stretched the wild Suk hills: to the north-east the valley of the Turkwell, running through Karamojo towards Lake Rudolph, with here and there curious conical hills rising out of the dry, bush-covered plain. To the left towered Mount Debasien, some 9,000 or 10,000 feet, rugged, weird, and grand: a majestic pile that seemingly rose sheer up from the level plain. Further west a vast level country rolled away farther than the eye could see, apparently to the Nile, while to the west or south-west was Mount Elgon, whose 14,200 feet is dwarfed by its massive proportions, one view of the crater from the east alone giving any idea of the height of the Twice we saw the top covered mountain. with a slight fall of snow, while frequently its summit was hidden by mists and clouds.

A steep and rough stony track, which was very trying to our ponies' feet, took us down into the plain and to the Turkwell, which we crossed, and camped in the Uganda Protectorate. Here I made arrangements for Nubi to take a party and go to the Savè country to buy flour, while we waited near the river for his return. After Nubi had got away as early as possible en route for Save, Lady Hindlip and I with the Somalis followed the road, to see what was to be found. A couple of hours' march from camp we came on an elderly Karamojo matron richly decorated with bead necklaces and iron wire. She was not inclined to be communicative, and unfortunately none of the men could speak Karamojo. What information we could extract from her was more than meagre, and her fear of us was only equalled by my desire for knowledge. The sight of one of my men arriving on the scene with a naked knife in his hand was too much, and caused the already terrified dame to weep copiously, and I have little doubt that she firmly believed her last hour had arrived. Our efforts to pacify her and allay her alarms at last met with some success, and we parted on what seemed to be amicable terms, though I noticed that the lady did not delay in putting a considerable distance between us. Our next find on our way back was a much more profitable one and scarcely less interesting. It took the form of a Swahili trader, half Arab and half Swahili, who was greatly relieved to hear that I was not an official, and that I had not come to interfere in his-I have little doubtnefarious enterprises. In a few moments my wife turned up, and the trader's astonishment at meeting a white lady at the north of Elgon was unbounded. He informed us that he had originally come up with General Macdonald, and for four years had been trading in Suk and Karamojo. He also told us the whereabouts of Savè, and relieved my mind by saying that food was abundant, and that my men would have no difficulty in buying as much as they wanted. Having confided to me that there was a large Swahili encampment whither he was going, and where he said my men would be certain to spend the night, we went our respective ways, he to his Swahili encampment, we to our own.

### CHAPTER V

#### AROUND ELGON

A welcome present—Start for Kelim—Belated parties—
Rescued by Karamojos—The Swahili trading encampments—A thriving organisation—A leopard attack—
Karamojo visit our camps—Native "mashers"—
Return of the food party—Native tanners—Heavy storms—Return to the Turkwell River—A good game region—The high camp—Return to main camp—
The doctor down with sunstroke—Arrival at the caves of Mount Elgon—Uganda kob—A frightened Nandi—An accident with game traps.

THE following day we made a return trip across the border into the East Africa Protectorate, to see if any signs of elephant or other game were to be found, and as we returned to camp after an unsuccessful day were pleasantly surprised to find that three Swahilis from the large encampment we had heard of had arrived with a most welcome present from

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A KARAMOJO VILLAGE.

the head trader of a sheep, some banana flour, and some honey. After a "shauri" with the strangers, I decided to march next day to Kelim to the encampment, and there wait for Nubi's return from Savè. It was a fairly long march—six hours—for Lady Hindlip and myself, while the porters did not all turn up till 6 p.m., four having stupidly lost themselves, and were brought in by two friendly Karamojo, who laughingly told us how they had found them and led them to camp, after having assured them that they were not going to take them to a Karamojo village to be killed.

Before leaving the vicinity of the railway I had made a few inquiries concerning the Kelim traders, and had been told that they had all been cleared out, lock, stock, and barrel, and that they were a thing of the past. I was therefore amused, but not surprised, to find two large encampments of traders comfortably established with their women, and with trading stations stretching north into Manimani and east into Suk, which is also supposed to be a closed district. I stayed near these traders for several days waiting for my men from

Savè and trying to get news of elephants One of the Swahilis in the encampment, who had been badly mauled by a leopard before our arrival, was attended to by Dr. Jensen. This leopard, I was told, had taken several goats, and the wounded man was sitting up one night in waiting, but fell asleep and was attacked by the brute, which seized him by the neck and throat and attempted to drag him off. He had two terrible wounds in the neck, and it was a marvel that he was alive, for although his large arteries had escaped, the wounds had been bound up with filthy cloth and were in a very nasty condition. With a considerable amount of trouble Dr. Jensen cleaned his wounds, and when we left him he was, with care, on the road to recovery. He refused to come with us, so that the doctor might tend him for a few days, till out of danger, and I have no idea whether he lived or died. Both Dr. Jensen and I tried for the leopard, but with no success. A number of Karamojo visited our camp here, and I was able to secure several typical photographs.

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These people are of the same stock as the Suk and appeared to be very friendly, with an insatiable craving for tobacco. They are a tall, active, loose-limbed race, the men showing a fine contempt for clothing, their ornaments consisting of wire, bead and ivory, and curious chignons. These chignons are formed of the hair of the owner, his deceased relations, and They are plastered with mud his enemies. and are further decorated with wire and an occasional pompom of ostrich feathers. protect these chignons at night or while sleeping, they carry a small two-legged neckrest, which keeps the mass off the ground, and also serves the double purpose of a pillow by night and a stool by day. Wire necklaces, after the style of the high dog-collars worn by European ladies, are very fashionable; one heavy masher was wearing one which reached almost to his ears, and must have caused him much discomfort. Nose and lip ornaments are also in vogue; the nose adornments I saw were generally a flat, oval-shaped piece of brass or other metal, while the lip ornaments varied in length and shape, and were made of wood or metal.

Their arms seemed to consist of long stabbing spears of the same description as the Suk, and in many cases a curved knife, like a claw or a finger.

The ladies do not follow the example of their lords and masters regarding clothing, but affect the common aprons and coverings of skins, the former often heavily decorated with beads. After much bargaining we succeeded in obtaining a good specimen of an apron with its beads for two goats.

On July 29th Nubi, Owad, and the food-party turned up from Savè with plenty of food and with a supply of bananas, which we split and fried, using them instead of potatoes, our supply of which had run out. They had also bought for me a very fine specimen of an ivory amulet and a war-horn made of a tusk of an immature elephant. Nubi told me that food was plentiful, and that the people were very friendly, also that a Uganda soldier had sent men out to tell the natives to bring in food, and that a few hours' march from where he camped was an Indian store. I have good reasons for believing that the Uganda soldier

was not a soldier at all, and that he was either an ex-employé of the Kisumu hut-tax collectors, or that he was masquerading either on his own or for the benefit of the Swahili traders. I was sorry to hear of an Indian store outside sphere of influence of the Uganda Administration, as I regard these stores as a grave danger, and am sure that if they were abolished it would be a great step towards suppressing the gangs of traders (really freebooters) who infest the country. We were able to purchase a few eggs and a chicken or so from the traders by means of barter, soap being much in demand, while Dr. Jensen received one or two fees in the shape of eggs for extracting a troublesome tooth from the Swahilis, who were not slow in availing themselves of the services of a medico. In a small Karamojo village near by we saw women busily engaged in tanning skins for aprons. The skins were dressed with a liquid of the consistency and colour of treacle, obtained from a species of bean, which, after being cut in halves and roasted, were pounded between stones to extract the juice. The village

children strongly objected to the camera and roared loudly when we tried to snapshot them. Thunderstorms were frequent in this region, and one day a very heavy hailstorm occurred, during which the thermometer fell from 97° to 65° Fahr. in twenty minutes.

I had intended visiting Mount Debasien and the Tepeth, and I am very sorry that we did not do so, but my time was getting short, and as I could get no news of elephants, I decided to recross the Turkwell and try my luck along the eastern slopes of Mount Elgon. A hot tramp of six hours or more on July 30th took us back to the Turkwell River, which was considerably swollen by recent thunderstorms, and our sheep and goats gave us some little trouble in crossing. The climb up the steep track leading from the valley was a severe one, and the porters were very glad to arrive at the top. We stayed three or four days in the first camp after crossing the Turkwell, and then, as no fresh tracks were to be found, continued our march south, passing a Swahili caravan going into Suk to trade. At our second camp I again stayed several days. Game here was

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KARAMOJO. SHOWING CHIGNONS.



KAVIRONDO LADIES CROSSING THE YALA. (See page 273.)

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fairly plentiful, including giraffe, heuglins, topi, waterbuck, reedbuck, oribi, and duiker, while some of my men came on a troop of six or seven lions, and Lady Hindlip secured a very good female heuglins, measuring eighteen inches. Here I found fresh tracks, and ascertained that I had only just missed a small herd the day we camped; I hunted all round, and one day took a small camp almost up to the timber line, but with no result. I followed tracks for some distance into the forest, which I found very dense, with timber in places that should some day be of considerable value. Three naked Karamojo came up into the high camp with me and slept round the camp fire, regarding the cold and wet with equanimity; they went out on several days after game, but never brought in any good news.

Up among the rocks several species of stonecrop were growing in abundance, the most noticeable being a mauve-coloured variety with a very sweet smell. Among other flowers, ferns, &c., were asparagus fern, yucca, and the castor-oil plant. Lower down near the rivers the vegetation was very rank and almost subtropical, everything growing one on the top of the other in a dense, tangled mass. Coarse, tall pink-and-white flowers, something like a mallow, were common, with here and there an orchid, while the whole, and especially the surface of still or sluggish waters, was covered with butterflies of many varieties and hues.

On our return to the main camp we found Dr. Jensen suffering from a touch of sunstroke, so we were only able to do a short march and then had to camp for three days. From this camp I bagged a very fine topi (19½, 7½ tip to tip 8½ circumference), and one day saw a large herd of about thirty giraffe feeding out in the open plain without the protection of a tree or shrub for at least a mile and a half from where they were. Having contrived a hammock out of sacks with a blanket as a shade, we followed the track to Mumias, and after three days marching arrived at the most northerly caves which I was anxious to examine.

My wife and I with a small caravan now left the main camp to try and strike the Nzoia River and secure a specimen of the Uganda kob. In PUBLIC LIBRATY

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.



KARAMOJO CHILD OBJECTS TO CAMERA.





NANDI GAME TRAP.

a little more than six hours' marching through a country where the bush consisted of shrubs, we came in sight of what we took to be the channel of the river, which next morning turned out to be only about an hour's walk distant. The tents had only just arrived before the rain fell in torrents, and lasted for some hours. Next morning on our way to the river we came suddenly on some half a dozen grass huts, out of one of which bolted a solitary Nandi, who absolutely refused to have anything to do with us, and scooted off at his best pace into the bush. In these huts, all of which had been very recently occupied, we found remains of the flesh or skins of some animal, while near by we came across a series of game traps, into one of which two of my porters promptly fell, but as there were no stakes at the bottom they were hauled out none the worse, but looking very foolish and rather surprised.

These game traps consist of a long kind of hedge made of boughs and trees stretching for some quarter or half a mile. Every few yards there are what look like paths through the fence, all leading into cunningly concealed pits, covered with twigs and grass. These vary in length, and have sides sloping inwards so as to wedge a body falling in. The animals are then easily speared. I need hardly say that these natives pay no game license, and of course at present it is impossible to prevent them killing as much game as they are able to.

Using my glasses, I soon spotted a kob lying down on the far side of the river, and after a long stalk I shot him where he lay.

Much to my disgust we found no place to cross the Nzoia; in places where the river was deep and sluggish my boys were afraid of crocodiles, and where it was shallower the current was much too swift and strong for any one to cross without being swept down. I had to look for another specimen. Next time I was more fortunate and returned to camp with, for the district, two fair heads. I spent another day near the river securing another specimen of the graceful kob, and next day we returned to our camp near the caves.



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BATHANCE IN CANE.

## CHAPTER VI

## THE CAVE-DWELLERS OF ELGON

Uninhabited caves—Primitive rock shelters—A cattleowning people—Interior of the caves—Curious finds —Huts at a dizzy height—The porters trading with the troglodytes — Terror-stricken people — Nandu raiders—Ancient markings.

I HAD for some time been anxious to visit these caves, which constituted one of the chief objects of my second visit to East Africa. They are known to the natives by the name of En Gabumi, and I believe are to be found also on the west side of Elgon, but whether these latter are inhabited or not I do not know. Our camp was close to a collection of seven or eight of these dwellings which had been uninhabited for some considerable time. In addition to the caves I found many hollows or scooped-out shelves among the rocks, which must have

served as shelters. Of these only one showed any signs of recent occupation or of any intention of the inhabitants to return. In the uninhabited caverns cleanliness was certainly not the chief characteristic, owing probably to the number of small birds, bats, and owls which had taken up their abode in their dark recesses. The people who lived in these caves formerly possessed large numbers of cattle, sheep, and goats, all of which had plainly been herded in the caves at night, for where the cattle stood the rocky floor was covered to the depth of several inches with droppings. The sides or walls were plastered up to the height of ten feet or more with cow dung, probably with the object of keeping out the damp, the rock in most places being extremely porous and soft, especially at the sides.

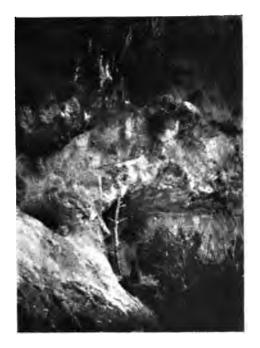
The cliffs in which the caves are situated form a sort of rocky buttress to the lowest spurs of the south-east part of Elgon, and are crowned with terraces, or small plateaux, of open fertile ground, where the inhabitants make most of their "shambas," or gardens, and cultivate their corn. The first cave we

CAVE CLIFFS SHOWING CAVES AND FERTILE TERRACES ABOVE.

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ASTOR, LENGX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS. visited was small and devoid of any particular interest, but the second, which had been occupied at a fairly recent date, we found to a very long but chamber. be narrow measuring some 210 feet from the entrance to the extreme end. The doorway was carefully closed up with branches and Inside this cavern, about half way along, was a hut made of sticks, mud, and grass, having a very small doorway, just large enough to admit a man on hands and knees. Within this hut were two platforms, or beds, one more or less above the other, made of sticks. The late occupants had left behind a tobacco pouch made of a piece of hollow bamboo with a cap of skin, and an enormous barrel, or basket, which we found on the floor. The fourth cave explored was larger still and was entered through a wide, low opening, leading into a fairly large chamber which branched off into two long tunnels, one on a higher level than the other, the length of the lower one from end to end being not less than 300 feet. The next cave we entered was a very curious abode, with two small

and more or less circular openings, and having a chimney, some 30 feet high, leading almost perpendicularly down to the dwelling-place, a round cavern some 40 feet in diameter. Another cave, though not a large one, had evidently been used as a granary, or store, by the Gabumi. Here were to be seen large wicker barrel-shaped baskets 5 feet high and 5 feet across, which were placed on platforms and were, no doubt, used to keep the grain from getting wet and also to preserve it from the depredations of rats, or similar animals. The seventh cave was a large chamber, evidently a rookery of "Gabumi," for it was filled with dwelling huts of mud, sticks, and grass, and contained more grain barrels. From this cavern we saw far above us, perched on shelves in the cliff, two huts with no visible means of access. A closer search, however, revealed the Gabumi mode of "going upstairs." The tops of two trees had been firmly lashed together, and the branches, cut off 8 or 9 inches from the trunk. formed footholds for the nimble tribesmen. I did not examine these two dwellings, not



CAVE WHICH IS APPROACHED BY TREE LADDER.



CAVE CLIFFS.

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the latter we quickly followed their example, as our supply of bananas obtained from Kelim had long since given out, and the sweet potatoes made a most welcome addition to our fare. I found the Gabumi in great trouble and fear, for only three days before a raiding party of Nandi had attacked them and carried off, according to their story, some three thousand sheep and goats, besides killing four of their tribe, whose graves I was shown. They told me that they had deserted the caves to the north owing to the Nandi having previously attacked them and carried off all their cattle, and that they had moved south to be nearer a Government Station, and had only lately reoccupied the caves. That they had really lost a considerable number of sheep and goats I have no doubt, as, although I found on all sides large numbers of recent tracks, the only animals I actually saw were some small kids at the entrances of the caverns. The band of Nandi who had raided these people must have been the same, or at any rate part of the same, whose huts we saw close to our camp near the Nzoia, and I have no

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WATERFALL IN KLOOF WHERE THE TWO LARGE CAVES ARE SITUATED.

doubt that we camped near them the night before they made their raid. It was fortunate, if this was the case, that they were ignorant of our being in the vicinity, or I suspect that our small herd of cows would have proved too tempting and that they would have attempted to drive them off, in which case matters might have become unpleasant, as we were none too strong when separated from my main camp; according to the Gabumi, the Nandi made a detour, and having got in their rear had remained hidden till the flocks of goats and sheep were feeding on the plateau, and then made their swoop.

The day after meeting the Gabumi, guided by an intelligent native, speaking Swahili, we visited the inhabited caverns, which I founded to be situated in a picturesque horse-shoe-shaped "kloof" with a waterfall in the centre. To describe the two largest of this group of caves with any success, or to convey a correct impression of their wonderful and gigantic dimensions, without the aid of flashlight photography is, I fear, impossible. I had no chain with me, and my measurements

must be therefore very rough—the results mainly of pacing and guesswork. The first large cave had a long opening, which at the first glance appeared to be only some 120 feet wide and 20 feet high, but on further examination I found that what seemed to be the entrance to another cave was in reality a continuation of the first, with some huge boulders apparently dividing the two. On entering I found that the floor sloped steeply to the back for a distance of about 180 feet, and here the usual huts for the inhabitants were built.

These dwellings differed from those I had already seen. Each hut was divided into three small compartments, where the Gabumi and their goats slept peacefully together. Each hut apparently contained a family. Scattered about were the large grain baskets similar to those I had previously seen, and also stones for grinding the corn. Cattle had not been in this cave for some time, and I found it as clean as could be expected under the circumstances, the people living very much after the fashion of other African



GABUMI AT A CAVE ENTRANCE.

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ARTON, LENGX AND TILDEN FOLLOWS.

## THE CAVE-DWELLERS OF ELGON 261

natives, and not in the state of filth described by a previous visitor. I was struck by the fact that the atmosphere in these caves was quite warm, the chilly feeling usually experienced under similar conditions being entirely absent. I had been told by Major Powell-Cotton, who visited these caves nearly two years previously, to look out for chisel marks on the walls, and traces of weapons of a bygone age. The marks which I think attracted his attention I found in all the caves, and until we questioned our guide could not make them out. He explained, however, that when the Gabumi possessed cattle they were in the habit of chipping off pieces of rock with the iron-shod hafts of their spears, in order to provide their animals with salt, and thus left at each blow a mark such as would be caused by a cold chisel. The cave in which we were was practically divided into two by fallen boulders, each cavern being about 150 feet wide. Only one, however, was used as a dwelling, the floor of the other being too rugged and full of miniature crevasses to be pleasant or comfortable. Both chambers were connected by a kind of passage at the back, where water was dripping through the porous rock, and where the occupants had placed a "chatty" to catch the drops. A long, low, narrow tunnel again connected this passage with a smaller cave, the three from one extremity to the other extending a distance of about 400 feet. The last and largest cave we saw was approached from below by a narrow and fairly steep pathway, which led from the waterfall to a small ledge at the entrance of the cavern.

Here I found some eight or nine men, probably on the look-out for a return of the Nandi raiding party, while I afterwards saw others perched up on higher rocks, doubtless on the watch for their hereditary foes. I managed to secure a photograph of what is perhaps a necessary domestic operation. The main cave was shaped somewhat like a figure 8 and divided into two by a stockade across the middle, the outer part being used as a granary and the inner as a dwelling. This was the most perfect of all the caves

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A DOMESTIC OPERATION AMONG GABUMI.

To jace p. 263.

I saw, and lends support to the idea of strata formation, the roof and floor being perfectly flat. From the actual mouth of the cavern to the outer stockade was about 30 feet, while on to the extreme end stretched a distance of 279 feet, making a total length of 309 feet. At its broadest point each chamber was 150 feet across. I estimated the height to be 30 feet, but the enormous size of the cavern no doubt made the roof appear much lower than it really was. This cave was the cleanest of all, cattle never having been kept in it, but in a smaller cave a few yards from the main one the conditions were far from being all that could This was the only case in be desired. which it was unpleasant to make a prolonged stay.

I did not come across very many of the inhabitants, but those I saw reminded me somewhat of the Nandi and some of the Masai. They were armed with the long stabbing-spear, a big oval shield, a knife called a sime, and a knobkerry, while the bow and poisoned arrow is probably part of

the equipment of the old men. Nothing less than a cow would induce them to part with any of their weapons or shields, owing to their fear of the Nandi, and we could not do a deal.

Formerly these cave-dwellers were a source of danger to any caravans proceeding from Mumias to Karamojo, as they used to attack and take toll of any they could. Since an expedition was sent against them by the Administration they have, however, given up their bad habits, and appear to be most friendly and anxious to be on good terms with the authorities. My Swahili-speaking guide announced his intention of accompanying us to Mumias to report the raid to the Government, but he did not do so. I reported the occurrence, and I believe some of the goats were taken from the Nandi, but a few days after we left the cave country I heard that the poor Gabumi were again looted by their undesirable neighbours.

The origin of these mysterious caves has given rise to a considerable amount of speculation on the part of the few who have

## THE CAVE-DWELLERS OF ELGON 265

visited them, but the majority are inclined to think that they are to a great extent, if not entirely, the work of men's hands. I believe that they base their theory on the presence among the Kavirondo of certain very dark green beads which were fairly common but are now, I fancy, unobtainable, and which are supposed to have come originally from Egypt. It is also known that in the days of Ptolemy the Egyptians possessed charts in which the Victoria Nyanza, the source of the Nile, and the Mountains of the Moon were clearly Further, the natives of Uganda are said to worship a certain precious stone, supposed to shine in the moonlight, and it is held that the caves may be the result of excavations on Elgon in search of it. Whether such a stone exists, or whether the natives really worship it, I do not know. Personally, I incline to the belief that they are in the main natural, because they appear to be on about the same level and formed in a strata of soft rock. Possibly they have been enlarged by man after the manner, I believe, of the Mashona caves; but owing to the fact that they are

nearly all on the same level, I imagine that they are natural caverns formed in a soft strata by volcanic disturbances, and do not owe their origin to the hands of man. They are, to my mind, much too extensive to have been the work of rude savages with inferior weapons; and if, as is claimed by those who believe them to be the work of man, the ancient Egyptians had penetrated so far to the south-east, one would have supposed that they would have left more traces of their presence behind them. In pursuing the human agency theory I used a spade in several caves, but always struck rock at a depth of nine inches to a foot. That the beads mentioned may have filtered down vid the Nile is quite possible, but it is not necessary for them to have come as far south direct, as the Kavirondo are said to have migrated southwards, and their language is reported to be spoken a considerable distance north of Mount Elgon.

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KAVIRONDO HUT.

## CHAPTER VII

## HOMEWARD BOUND

March to Boma Waweilly—A party of ruffians—A visit from Majanjar—A native domestic tragedy—Kavirondo—A treeless district—The people and their houses—Tails worn by women—Quail decoys—Crossing the Nzoia—Arrival at Mumias—A terrific thunderclap—Bad roads—A dangerous bridge of creepers—The Yala River—Crossing on barrels—We reach Port Florence—Kisumu—A noxious spot—News of elephant—I go in search—A launch trip on the lake—An anxious return—A safe landing—Journey to Nairobi and the coast—Lord and Lady Delamere—I take up land and sail for home.

From our camp at the caves we marched to Boma Waweilly, some six hours distant, where we found an Indian store and a party of ruffians, who said they were Government soldiers. I do not think, however, that they were anything but myrmidons of hut-tax collectors. Another march through Kavirondo

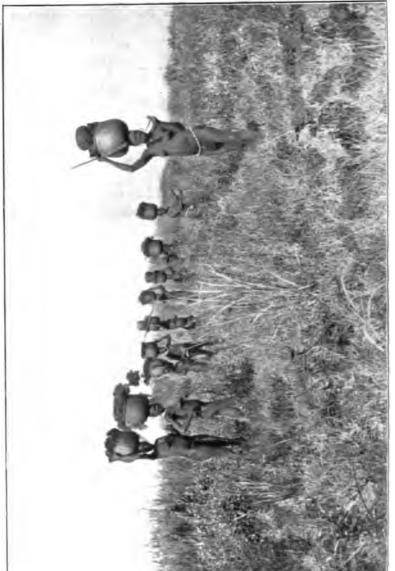
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country took us to a village whose chief rejoiced in the name of Majanjar, a pleasant old man, who sent us a present of a sheep and some bananas. Majanjar came up to our camp next morning before we left, and told us with a solemn face that his wife had bolted in the night; although he admitted that she was only one out of thirty of his wives, he was very anxious that I should try and catch her for him. I told him that I would ask the "Bwana" at Mumias to catch the lady, but that I did not think I could undertake the task.

The Kavirondo country is, for the most part, most uninteresting and treeless, the timber having been cut or burnt years since. It is a very thickly populated district, and the cultivation of matama, bananas, corn, sweet potatoes, beans, and sesamum is carried on to a great extent. The Kavirondo own cattle and sheep. Their huts often have broad verandahs, and most of the northern villages are surrounded by walls and a ditch, which is generally crossed by a bridge leading through a doorway, which is sometimes arched. In

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some districts hedges of cactus, euphorbia, or other plants take the place of walls. Kavirondo are remarkable for the fact that their younger women wear absolutely no clothing, and are renowned for their strict morality, singularly unlike any other tribe in East Africa or, I believe, Uganda. The ladies, however, while so often dispensing with clothing, do not despise feminine adornment, and ofttimes bedeck themselves heavily with beads, iron wire, and ivory ornaments, one very common decoration being a grass tail hanging down behind, secured round the waist with a string of beads. I was told that to touch one of these tails while worn by a woman is a great breach of good manners, and is punishable by a fine of five goats. The men do not follow the example of their female relations as regards clothing, but generally wear a garment of some kind or another—skin, or bark cloth, or "Americani"—not apparently so much for decency (if such an idea enters their head) as for warmth. The men seem to take great pride in their headgear, a gentleman dressed up for the day often having a huge structure

on his head made of basket-work or skin, and ornamented with beads, cowrie shells, ostrich feathers, &c. Both men and women work in the cultivation of their crops. The women work in a state of nudity, and pay not the slightest heed to the passing caravan. Smoking seemed to be more or less universal, and nearly every woman we saw had her pipe, a common kind, having a clay or earthenware bowl, a bamboo stem, and an iron mouthpiece. Hemp is, I am told, also indulged in. The Kavirondo living near the lake are subject to malaria, and also to the dread sleeping sickness which has so devastated the lake islands and portions of Uganda. They are very fair labourers for agricultural purposes, being willing to leave their villages for a year or more, and content with a very low rate of wage. For porters they are useless, except actually in a station, for they cannot carry an ordinary load, and have a great antipathy for such work, while in the higher altitudes they feel the cold and heavy dews very keenly. Objects which are very common, and which are sure to attract the



ELDERLY KAVIRONDO SHOWING HEAD DRESS OF SHELLS.

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BWIMMING HORSES ACROSS NZOIA,

attention of a traveller in Kavirondo, are the quail decoys. These consist of a pole, either stuck vertically in the ground or fastened horizontally on two forked sticks, while suspended from these are numbers of conical-shaped wicker cages, each containing a quail, whose calls attract others, which are in turn caught by snares set in the grass round about the poles.

Crossing the Nzoia by means of dug-out canoes was rather hazardous. The strong stream swept the canoes some little distance down stream, and they then had to be poled up again to the landing-place, the banks being too precipitous to land anywhere. The ponies behaved very well on the whole, and were all ferried over safely, a couple of Somalis crossing with each.

At Mumias we found Mr. Lawson in charge, he having succeeded Isaac, who had been sick and who was now at Kisumu. Mumias is neither a picturesque place, nor should I imagine it to be a particularly healthy one, the Government buildings, with the exception of the police lines, are surrounded by a deep

ditch and a wall. They were not in the best of repair, the collector's residence, a mansion of stone, having entirely collapsed, and Mr. Lawson was established in the offices, which were comfortable and cool. Shortly after 10 p.m., the night after our arrival at Mumias, we had retired to our camp, after being hospitably entertained by Mr. Lawson, when we were aroused by a terrific clap of thunder, sounding for all the world as though a powder magazine had exploded within a few hundred yards of our camp, while very soon after torrents of rain fell. Here we stopped a day, and my Masai guide and his wife took their departure, joining a small village of Uashingeshu Masai, who were settled not far off. Owing to the heavy rain the road or track was abominably slippery the morning we left, and we slipped about as if on ice.

Some two miles from Mumias is the Lusimo River, which had to be crossed by means of a suspension bridge, made entirely of creepers, bark, &c. As this structure swayed and threatened to overturn after the fashion of

MUMIAS MARKET PLACE.

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a glorified hammock, some of the men did not at all like crossing, and I was particularly thankful when the giraffe skin arrived on the southern bank. Here again the current was fairly strong, and our horses, cattle, and sheep were swum across, manœuvred by some Kavirondo evidently on the look-out for a like job, who were evidently used to the game, and who were seemingly most powerful swimmers. Here a substantial bridge on stone piles was in course of construction, under the direction of Mr. McClure, who arrived while our safari was in process of crossing.

The Yala River, which we reached the following day, although fordable, also took some considerable time to cross, the ferry here consisting of a small and rather rickety raft on barrels. Crossing was very slow, but everything eventually found its way over without accident, except the cook's box and a sack of odds and ends, which were upset into the water, but rescued without trouble. A number of Kavirondo were near, wearing many strange forms of headgear, one old gentleman having a veritable helmet of cowrie shells.

A third day's march from Mumias took us into Kisumu, or, to use the nomenclature of the railway, Port Florence. On the way thither I had ridden ahead of the caravan, and taken a short cut which led us down a track which was almost impossible for our ponies. However, we eventually led them down, and rode on into Kisumu, where we found Isaac, who put us up and made us as comfortable as the mosquitoes would permit. Kisumu is the terminus of the Uganda Railway and the headquarters of the steamers plying on the lake; it is built more or less on rising ground overlooking Ugowe Bay, and from the Sub-Commissioner's residence quite a picturesque view is obtained. It has a most evil reputation for unhealthiness, and although a good deal has been done lately to render it more inhabitable, it is still a most noxious locality. Personally I think it one of, if not the most, pestilential inhabited place I have ever been in; it is extremely enervating, and while not being so terribly hot, one always feels as if one had too many clothes on, and, to make matters worse, chills are very easily contracted, and



KAKUMEGA WOMEN HOEING.

To face p. 274.

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ASTOR, LENGX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS. the climate is treacherous in the extreme. The shores of the lake are densely covered with papyrus, and floating islands are continually coming into the harbour and small bay, both making ideal breeding places for anopheles. No doubt when money is obtained and spent on destroying the papyrus and mosquito-breeding places, and proper sanitary methods adopted (none of which can be done without money), Kisumu may rank as an ordinary station in a hot country, but at present it cannot be considered as anything but an extremely unhealthy place.

Isaac had heard of a herd of elephants near a certain village on the shores of the lake, and I determined to go and have a look for them. Sending on ahead a small unloaded caravan early one morning, we hired an old steam launch, called the *Ruwenzori*, and the following day Lady Hindlip and I left to meet our men, who were to take our camp up into the hills a few hours' march from the mosquito-infested shore. The launch was not a rival to a torpedo-boat, and our progress was painfully slow. At last we made

our destination and landed, fully expecting to find our men waiting somewhere in the vicinity. Not a bit of it; not a sign of my men was to be seen, and a message to the local chief asking for carriers met with the Eastern reply of "To-morrow, wait till tomorrow; to-morrow we will carry the loads." I had been warned not to return to Kisumu in the afternoon because of a breeze which always sprang up about 4 p.m., and was sufficient to make things lively, if not unpleasant, for a small boat. There was, however, nothing to do but return; our choice lay between sleeping close to the papyrus swamp, which meant at the least a probable bad go of fever, and being absolutely devoured by mosquitoes, and a probably unpleasant and certainly slow return on the launch. We chose the latter, and proceeded For a time we just to get up steam. moved slowly under sail, and all went well for about an hour and a half, while we began to hope that the usual afternoon breeze might not spring up. These hopes were not realised, and we were soon forced to

shut up our folding-chairs, which were becoming most unsteady, and to sit on the deck. I thought that perhaps the sail might as well come down, and to make matters more pleasant one of the ropes got foul of the screw, and necessitated one of the crew climbing overboard, and taking some ten or fifteen long minutes to clear it away. We were soon rolling about in a serious manner, and a prone position on the deck was almost a necessity, while the skipper, a Swahili, thought it a good time to have a bout of fever, and shook like a leaf. This lasted hour after hour, and, I think, was as unpleasant an experience as I wish for. small boat rolling wickedly on a dark night on a lake full of crocodiles and hippo, the latter snorting all round, and who might have easily capsized our little craft by rising underneath her, is not an inspiring picture. Eventually we fetched up at the landing-stage at 10 p.m., after being nearly poisoned by the fearful smell from the lake, and stumbled up to Isaac's abode just as he was shutting up for the night. Runners were sent to fetch back our safari the next day, and they were suitably dealt with on their return. We stayed two or three days with Isaac, who had not had the same opportunity of making a garden like he had done at Ravine, and then proceeded to Nairobi, the coast, and on to German East Africa, whence we returned in October, and while again staying with Lord and Lady Delamere I was induced to follow their example, and take up a tract of land almost adjoining the former's grant, where I hope to be when this volume is in the hands of the reader.



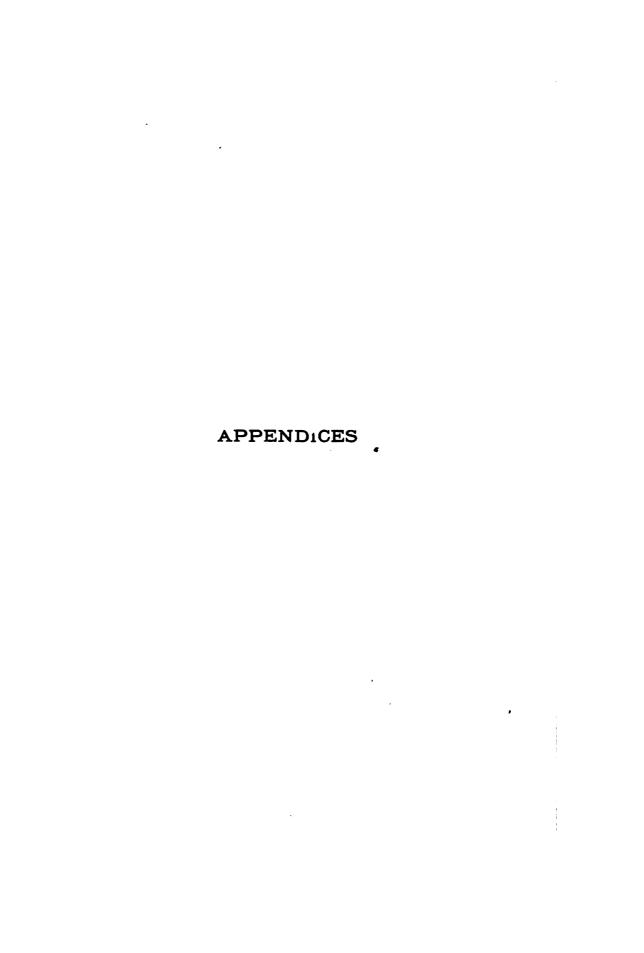
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## APPENDIX I

## A SETTLER'S VIEWS OF GAME PRESERVATION IN THE EAST AFRICAN PROTECTORATE.

Licenses—Anomalies—Casual sportsmen—Fencing vegetations for preservation of game—Game reserves—Some suggestions.

No game may legally be killed in the Protectorate without a license, the terms of which vary for different classes of people. The first set of licenses issued were (I) a sportsman's license, costing £50; (2) a public officer's license, costing £10; and (3) a settler's license costing £10. While the first two mentioned allowed the holder to kill identically the same number and variety of animals, the third only allowed the holder, a settler, to kill a very limited number of the ordinary animals on his own land, and did not permit him to kill any such game as elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros, zebra, topi, giraffe, eland, and other species, or even protect his crops against animals, large or small. To enjoy the same

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reprinted from "British East Africa, Past, Present, and Future" [1905], by the present writer.

privileges as an official he had to pay £50, which was grossly unfair, but typical of the treatment the settler then met with. When the first sudden influx of settlers came, the local administration had, I believe, no power to change the law, and the Foreign Office authorities, following the dictates of red tape and clerical autocratic ideas, would not permit them to do so. Consequently the law-respecting settlers became practically a dead letter, with the result that many neglected to take out a game license, and frequently did not even possess a license to carry a gun or a rifle. Such an impossible state of things ought never to have arisen.

Lord Delamere, to whom we, as settlers, for many reasons owe a great debt, was the first to do more than merely protest against the existing regulations. His action took the form of killing one zebra beyond the number his £50 license entitled him to; this he did to test the legality of the regulation which prevented a settler killing animals causing damage to his crops, fences, &c. He was fined by a magistrate, whose decision was upheld on appeal, but almost immediately after this decision a new law came into force, allowing the settler, for a sum of £3, to take out a license to kill animals other than "Royal game" on his own land, and also to kill "Royal game" found damaging his property. In the latter case, however, the skin, horns, or ivory of the Royal game shot was to be the property of the Crown. I was leaving East Africa the end of last October another law was spoken of as likely to come into force, viz., that for £10 a settler would be entitled to kill the same number and variety of game as a public officer—a perfectly fair arrangement. If these last two laws have been put in force the settler has nothing much to cavil at, except that it is perhaps hardly likely that he would take the trouble to preserve the skin of, say, a zebra, or do very much more than advise the nearest official of what he had killed, and request him to send and remove any portion of the animal which the Government might claim.

I am sure that all settlers with large holdings, and the best of the small men, will be the last to wish to exterminate the game; and to regard the settlers, as a class, as being antagonistic to the preservation of game is to do them a great injustice, and is not advisable in the interests of the wild animals themselves. The settlers will not kill or wound the same quantity of game as was killed and wounded before and during the construction of the Uganda Railway!

If the settlers are fairly treated as regards game, the good ones will assist greatly in its preservation; but it is also to be hoped that the proper authorities will rigorously prosecute all persons who slaughter or wantonly kill beyond their limits. The men who wish to keep game on their properties will, I feel sure, uphold and assist the game ranger, and I hope that all public officers will do the same, and when Mr. Percival, the game ranger, applies to any district for information for the detection of breaches of the game regulations, that he will be promptly given all

the assistance possible. The interests of the settlers, however, sadly need protection, especially from casual sportmen, who appear to imagine that for some occult reason they are allowed to roam about and shoot on whatever ground they please without asking permission of any one, and at present it is often regarded as below the dignity of a "public servant" to warn them that certain lands are private.

Owing to the absence of survey it is impossible for all settlers to fence their land; and even if the land were surveyed it would be impossible to fence a large holding in a short time, while temporary boundary marks would receive scant attention from the majority of "gunners." I can quote a case affecting myself: Two sportsmen camped for a week on what is, I believe, a portion of my land within sight of a police officer's station, but it was not for him or his men to warn them off. happened, the sportsmen in question were personal friends of my own, and it did not therefore matter; but what, I ask, are police for? They are certainly not paid by the British taxpayer only to look after the interests of the Government and public servants; vet this is far too often the case in British East Africa, and it is to be hoped that the Colonial Office will remedy this state of things before unpleasant cases occur. I will mention another case -perhaps more amusing than serious. A sports-

It is only fair to state that possibly the officer was away, and more probably he had had no official notification that the land in question was private. Official wheels grind slowly.

man, whose name I will not mention, was shooting on a certain landowner's property without having asked leave, and without taking the slightest notice of the owner. The latter purposely ignored the presence of the poacher, and when the gunner eventually went away he remarked: "What a funny man the landowner is! He never called on me!" In this connection I cannot resist repeating part of a conversation I overheard at a dinner-party this year. "Do you get much shooting in South Africa, Mr. So-and-So?" "No, not much now; you see, the beastly farmahs have fenced their lands, and you have to ask their leave to shoot their game—beastly nuisance." The sooner the British East African colonists assert their rights the better.

The present regulations for the preservation of game in the country are miserably inadequate, and require immediate attention. The yearly expenditure remitted is the wretchedly small sum of £350 per annum, being £250 as the salary of the game ranger, and £100 a year for expenses. What can a man with £100 a year for travelling do in a country like East Africa? and it is only lately that Mr. Percival, the present Warden, has been encouraged and assisted in the way he should be. Before leaving the financial considerations, I will attempt briefly to point out to what a very large extent the Protectorate's exchequer benefits from the presence of game. I do not know how many sportsmen visited East Africa during the last twelve months, but in Sir C. Eliot's report, dated Mombasa,

February 9, 1904, giving the amount of game shot during 1903, I find that there were thirty-five sportsman's licenses, eighty-eight public officer's, and seventeen settler's. These licenses, the number of which have increased in 1904 and, I fear, are still increasing, show a total of £2,800. To this considerable sum must be added very heavy import dues on rifles, ammunition, cameras, glasses, provisions, camp outfits, &c.; registration fees for porters, boys, &c., railway expenses and export dues on trophies, skins, &c.; and a very large sum will be found to be derived solely from the presence of game in the country. However, the sum obtained from licenses alone would amply suffice for the more or less adequate protection of the game. I would suggest that the number of game wardens be increased to three, that their duties should be entirely confined to the protection of game, and that they should not be temporarily appointed to do ordinary collector's work at a station, or employed for months on end risking their lives and wasting their time solely for the purpose of catching lions for Indian potentates. These three wardens should consist of one chief and two assistants, and their pay and expenses might be as follows: Chief warden, £300 to £350 per annum, and £500 for expenses; two assistants, £200 to £250 each, and £500 each for expenses: a total of £1,700, or £1,850, or, say, £2,000, which is well inside the actual amount brought in by licenses alone.

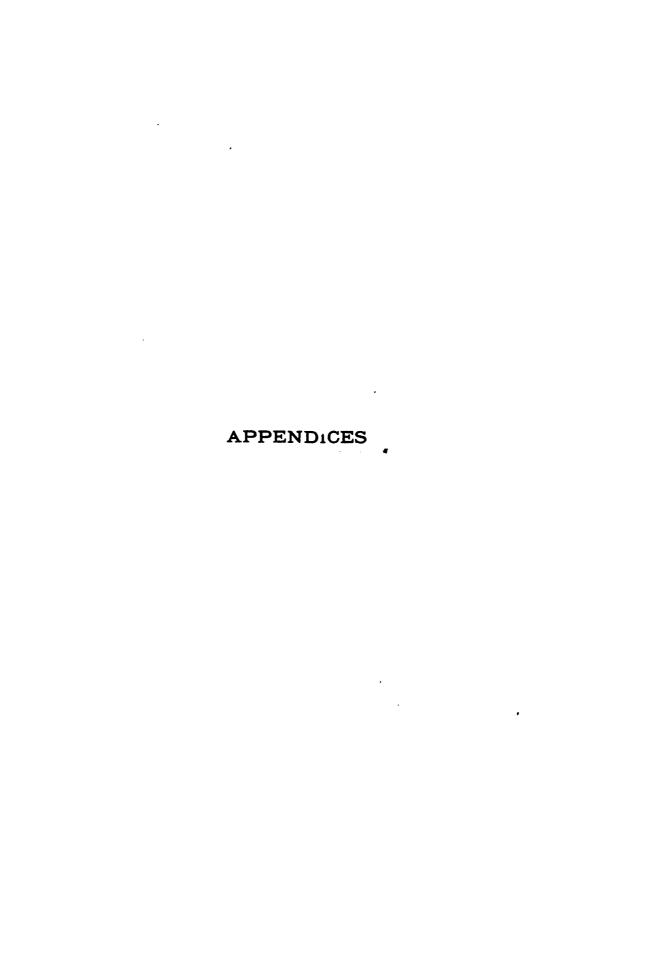
I do not think it is an extravagant demand that a proportion of the money obtained by means of the game should be spent on its adequate protection. By the present system the revenue of the Protectorate may benefit more for a few years, but at what cost? the cost of the game: which is, and I hope will be for many years, the means of attracting a few people and a certain amount of money and attention to the country.

Besides the game ranger and game licenses, the other means of preservation adopted are game reserves. Of these there are three, none of which are really worthy of the name. The first reserve, the only one which can be really spoken of as such, is the southern or Masai Land reserve. This would be an excellent reserve, were it one in reality, but when the following facts are taken into account it will be seen that it ceases to be one except in name.

- 1. Wandrobo tribesmen, who subsist almost entirely on game, hunt in a portion of it.
- 2. It is poached from German territory, and since the inception of the Boer settlement on the border, has been visited and shot over by small parties of four and five men. One party told an official that they were shooting at trees! Boers were always fond of wasting ammunition.
- 3. I believe some land in the reserve has been granted to settlers.
- 4. The East African Syndicate are talking of building a railway from Kiu to their soda concession, Lake Magardi. When a company starts building a

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ASTON FROM AND TILDEN NO VOATIONS



3. If the Masai are moved into a reservation on Likipia (as I hope they either have been or will be), this tract would make a good game reserve, and the officer in charge of the Masai reservation could be held responsible for the protection of the game. I would also make the adjacent Baringo district, now heavily shot over, part of the new Masai reserve, and do away with the so-called reserves of Sugota and Jubaland. By this means the new Masai reserve could be well watched without any fresh grant being necessary for the game ranger, provided that the officer in charge of the Masai and the officer at Baringo were made responsible for the protection of game in their districts.

The ordinance of December 1, 1904, which allows female and immature ivory to be sold to Government, should be repealed, and all female and immature male ivory should be confiscated, or the possessor should be allowed to buy his own ivory from the Crown at a price to be fixed by the game ranger and H.M. Commissioner. The example of the French in West Africa, where they refuse to accept ivory as payment of hut-tax by natives, might well be followed.

In my opinion it is not in the interest of the game that a sportsman may—within ten miles of the line—shoot as many of whatever species as an individual travelling over a large tract far from supplies, where he may have to shoot up to his limit for meat. I think that the issue of two forms of licenses would meet the case: (1) A £30 license

enabling the owner to shoot half the number at present allowed by the £50 license, within a certain distance from the line, say up to fifty miles. (2) The present £50 license for sportsmen travelling over larger areas away from supplies, &c., might enable them to kill the same amount as at present, while a £60 license might also include a male buffalo, giraffe, and eland; add an extra antelope or two, if the number of species in the districts traversed was limited. But this license should not be issued to those who only shoot from the railway. I think that as so many sportsmen shoot close to the railway they are allowed to shoot too much, and considerably more than necessary, but if their limit were to be curtailed the cost of their license should be reduced.

## APPENDIX II

#### GAME LICENSES

UNFORTUNATELY the proposed issue of licenses to settlers carrying similar privileges to those issued to public officers has not been carried out. settler's license, called a "landholder's license," enabling the holder to shoot on his own land, has been issued at £3, but for £10 a settler is denied privileges extended to public servants, who only pay a similar amount. In the Game Regulations will be found a paragraph stating, "The Commissioner may, in special cases, grant, at a fee of 150 rupees, a sportsman's license to a person entitled to take out a settler's license, but such license shall be deemed to have been issued under the principal regulations." A communication from the Acting Commissioner informs me that such licenses are a special privilege, and "only granted to merchants who have vested interests in the country"! Settlers' interests are, therefore, not considered vested in the eyes of the marvellous Administration of British East Africa!

Why such invidious distinctions are made it is impossible to understand. Settlers, although obliged

to take out a license to shoot on their own land, are powerless to prevent any license holder from shooting on their property unless they fence the whole.

The regulations issued this month to settlers are at least eighteen months old, and a request made to headquarters for information as to later rules and regulations has met with no response.

<sup>1</sup> November, 1905.

# APPENDIX III

## GAME REGULATIONS

## EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

## Preservation of Game.

- 1. In these Regulations,
- "Hunt, kill, or capture" means hunting, killing, or capturing by any method, and includes every attempt to kill or capture.
  - "Hunting" includes molesting.
- "Game" means any animal mentioned in any of the Schedules.
- "Public Officer" means a European Officer in the Public Service of the East Africa or Uganda or Zanzibar Protectorates, or on the Superior Establishment of the Uganda Railway, or an Officer of one of His Majesty's ships on the East Africa station.
- "Native" means any native of Africa, not being of European or American race or parentage.
- "Settler" means a person for the time being resident in the Protectorate not being a public officer or a native.

- "Sportsman" means a person who visits the Protectorate wholly or partly for sporting purposes, not being a public officer, settler, or native.
- "Collector" means the principal civil officer in charge of a district of the Protectorate.
- "Schedule" and "Schedules" refer to the Schedules annexed to these Regulations.

### General Provisions.

- 2. No person, unless he is authorised by a special license in that behalf, shall hunt, kill, or capture any of the animals mentioned in the First Schedule.
- 3. No person, unless he is authorised by a special license under these Regulations, shall hunt, kill, or capture any animal of the kinds mentioned in the Second Schedule if the animal be (a) immature or (b) a female accompanied by its young.
- 4. No person, unless he is authorised under these Regulations, shall hunt, kill, or capture any animal mentioned in the Third Schedule.
- 5. The Commissioner may, if he thinks fit, by Proclamation, declare that the name of any species, variety, or sex of animal, whether beast or bird not mentioned in any Schedule hereto, shall be added to a particular Schedule, or that the name of any species or variety of animal mentioned or included in one Schedule shall be transferred to another Schedule, and, if he thinks fit, apply such declaration to the whole of the Protectorate, or restrict it to any district or districts in which he thinks it expedient that the animal should be protected.

- 6. No person shall within the Protectorate sell, or purchase, or offer or expose for sale any ostrich eggs or any head, horns, skin, feathers, or flesh of any animal mentioned in any of the Schedules, unless the ostrich or animal has been kept in a domesticated state, and no person shall knowingly store, pack, convey, or export any part of any animal which he has reason to believe has been killed or captured in contravention of these Regulations.
- 7. If any person is found to be in possession of any elephant's tusk weighing less than II lbs. or any ivory being, in the opinion of the Court, part of an elephant's tusk which would have weighed less than II lbs., he shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations, and the tusk or ivory shall be forfeited unless he proves that the tusk or ivory was not obtained in breach of these Regulations.
- 8. No person shall use any poison, or, without a special license, any dynamite or other explosive for the killing or taking of any fish.
- 9. Where it appears to the Commissioner that any method used for killing or capturing animal or fish is unduly destructive, he may, by Proclamation, prohibit such method or prescribe the conditions under which any method may be used; and if any person uses any method so prohibited, or uses any method otherwise than according to the conditions so prescribed, he shall be liable to the same penalties as for a breach of these Regulations.
- 10. Save as provided by these Regulations, or by any Proclamations under these Regulations, any

person may hunt, kill, or capture any animal not mentioned in any of the Schedules, or any fish.

### Game Reserves.

II. The areas described in the Fifth Schedule hereto are hereby declared to be game reserves.

The Commissioner, with the approval of the Secretary of State, may by Proclamation declare any other portion of the Protectorate to be a game reserve, and may define or alter the limits of any game reserve, and these Regulations shall apply to every such game reserve.

Save as provided in these Regulations or by any such Proclamation, any person who, unless he is authorised by a special license, hunts, kills, or captures any animal whatever in a game reserve, or is found within a game reserve under circumstances showing that he was unlawfully in pursuit of any animal, shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

### Licenses to Europeans, &c.

- 12. The following licenses may be granted by the Commissioner or any Collector or such person or persons as may be authorised by the Commissioner. That is to say:—
  - (1) A Sportsman's license;
  - (2) A Public Officer's license; and
  - (3) A Settler's license.

The following fees shall be payable for licenses;

that is to say, for a sportsman's license, 750 rupees, and for a public officer's or a settler's license, 150 rupees.

Every license shall be in force for one year only from the date of issue.

Provided that a public officer's license may be granted for a single period of 14 consecutive days in one year on payment of a fee of 30 rupees.

Every license shall bear in full the name of the person to whom it is granted, the date of issue, the period of its duration, and the signature of the Commissioner, Collector, or other person authorised to grant licenses.

The applicant for a license may be required to give security by bond or deposit, not exceeding 2,000 rupees, for his compliance with these Regulations, and with the additional condition (if any) contained in his license.

A license is not transferable.

Every license must be produced when called for by any officer of the Protectorate Government or by any officer of the Uganda Railway specially authorised in writing by the Commissioner.

In granting licenses under these Regulations a Collector or any person authorised to grant licenses shall observe any general or particular instructions of the Commissioner.

13. A sportsman's license, and a public officer's license respectively authorise the holder to hunt, kill, or capture animals of any of the species mentioned in the Third Schedule, but unless the license otherwise

provides, not more than the number of each species fixed by the second column of that Schedule.

The holder of a sportsman's or public officer's license granted under these Regulations may by the license be authorised to kill or capture additional animals of any such species on payment of such additional fees as may be prescribed by the Commissioner.

- 14. A settler's license authorises the holder to hunt, kill, or capture animals of the species and to the number mentioned in the Fourth Schedule only.
- 15. A public officer's license shall not be granted except to a public officer, and a settler's license shall not be granted except to a settler, but a sportsman's license may be granted to a settler.
- 16. When a license similar to a public officer's license under these Regulations has been granted in the Uganda Protectorate, that license shall authorise the holder to hunt, kill, or capture game in the East Africa Protectorate, in all respects as if the license had been granted in the East Africa Protectorate; provided that such license shall be first indorsed by a Collector or other authorised officer of the East Africa Protectorate: provided also that any authority to kill or capture additional animals not permitted under the corresponding East Africa license shall be void.
- 17. Where it appears proper to the Commissioner for scientific or administrative reasons, he may grant a special license to any person, not being a native, to kill or capture animals of any one or more species

mentioned in any of the Schedules, or to kill, hunt, or capture in a game reserve specified beasts or birds of prey, or other animals whose presence is detrimental to the purposes of the game reserve, or in particular cases, to kill or capture, as the case may be, in a game reserve, any animal or animals of any one or more specially mentioned in the Schedules.

A special license shall be subject to such conditions as to fees and security (if any), number, sex, and age of specimens, district and season for hunting and other matters, as the Commissioner may prescribe. And in the Uganda Railway zone, whether included in a game reserve or not, it shall be lawful to kill or capture any beast of prey.

When the Collector or Assistant Collector, or other European officer of the Protectorate Government, in a district comprising a game reserve, is the holder of a public officer's license, the Commissioner may grant a special license authorising the officer to hunt, kill, or capture, in the game reserve, such animals as may be allowed by his public officer's license.

Save as aforesaid, the holder of a special license shall be subject to the general provisions of the Regulations, and to the provisions relating to holders of licenses.

18. Every license-holder shall keep a register of the animals killed or captured by him in the form specified in the Seventh Schedule.

The register shall be submitted as often as convenient, but not less frequently than once in three

months, to the nearest Collector or Assistant Collector, who shall countersign the entries up to date.

Any person authorised to grant licenses may at any time call upon any license holder to produce his register for inspection.

Every person holding a sportsman's license shall likewise before leaving the Protectorate submit his register to the Deputy-Commissioner.

If any holder of a license fails to keep his register truly, he shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations.

- 19. The Commissioner may revoke any license when he is satisfied that the holder has been guilty of a breach of these Regulations or of his license, or has connived with any other person in any such breach, or that in any matters in relation thereto he has acted otherwise than in good faith.
- 20. The Commissioner may at his discretion direct that a license under these Regulations shall be refused to any applicant.
- 21. Any person whose license has been lost or destroyed may obtain a fresh license for the remainder of his term on payment of a fee not exceeding one-fifth of the fee paid for the license so lost or destroyed.
- 22. No license granted under these Regulations shall entitle the holder to hunt, kill, or capture any animal, or to trespass upon private property without the consent of the owner or occupier.
- 23. Any person who, after having killed or captured animals to the number and of the species authorised

by his license, proceeds to hunt, kill, or capture, any animals which he is not authorised to kill or capture, shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations, and punishable accordingly.

24. Persons in the employment of holders of licenses may, without license, assist such holders of licenses in hunting animals, but shall not use firearms.

The holder of a sportsman's or public officer's license while engaged in hunting animals mentioned in the Schedules shall not be accompanied by more than one person provided with a settler's or native's license.

In any case of a breach of this Regulation the license of every license-holder concerned in the breach shall be liable to forfeiture and such license-holder shall be guilty of an offence.

25. The Commissioner or any person authorised by him in that behalf may, at his discretion, require any person importing firearms or ammunition that may be used by such person for the purpose of killing game or any animals to take out a license under these Regulations, and may refuse to allow the firearms or ammunition to be taken from the public warehouse until such license is taken out. Save as aforesaid, nothing in these Regulations shall affect the provisions of "The East African Firearms Regulations 1896."

# Restrictions on Killing Game by Natives.

26. When the members of any native tribe or the native inhabitants of any village appear to be de-

pendent on the flesh of wild animals for their subsistence, the Collector of the district may, with the approval of the Commissioner, by order addressed to the Chief of the tribe or Headman of the village, authorise the tribesmen or inhabitants, as the case may be, to kill animals within such area, and subject to such conditions as to mode of hunting, number, species, and sex of animals and otherwise, as may be prescribed by the order.

An order under this Regulation shall not authorise the killing of any animal mentioned in the First Schedule.

The provisions of these Regulations with respect to holders of licenses shall not apply to a member of a tribe or native inhabitant of a village to which an order under this Regulation applies.

Save as aforesaid, the general provisions of these Regulations shall apply to every native who is authorised under this Regulation, and a breach of any order shall be a breach of these Regulations.

27. The Collector of a district may, with the approval of the Commissioner, grant a license similar to a sportsman's or settler's license to any native, upon such terms as to fees and other conditions as the Commissioner may direct.

# Legal Procedure.

28. Where any public officer of the East Africa Protectorate thinks it expedient for the purposes of verifying the register of a license-holder, or suspects that any person has been guilty of a breach of these

Regulations, he may inspect and search, or authorise any subordinate officer to inspect and search, any baggage, packages, wagons, tents, building, or caravan belonging to or under the control of such person or his agent, and if the officer finds any heads, tusks, skins or any remains of animals appearing to have been killed, or any live animals appearing to have been captured, in contravention of these Regulations, he shall seize and take the same before a magistrate to be dealt with according to law.

29. Any person who hunts, kills, or captures any animals in contravention of these Regulations, or otherwise commits any breach of these Regulations, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine which may extend to 1,000 rupees, and where the offence relates to more animals than two, to a fine in respect of each animal which may extend to 500 rupees, and in either case to imprisonment which may extend to two months, with or without a fine.

In all cases on conviction, any heads, horns, tusks, skins, or other remains of animals found in the possession of the offender or his agent, and all live animals captured in contravention of these Regulations, shall be liable to forfeiture.

If the person convicted is the holder of a license, his license may be revoked by the Court.

30. Where in any proceeding under these Regulations any fine is imposed, the Court may award any sum or sums not exceeding half the total fine to any informer or informers.

## Repeal, &c.

- 31. All previous Regulations as to the killing of game in the Protectorate are hereby repealed.
- 32. The forms of licenses appearing in the Schedule hereto, with such modifications as circumstances require, may be used.
- 33. These Regulations may be cited as "The East African Game Regulations 1900."
  - 34. These Regulations are hereby declared urgent.

ARTHUR H. HARDINGE,

H.M. Com. & Consul-General.

MOMBASA, October 7, 1900.

### SCHEDULES. 2

## FIRST SCHEDULE.

Animals not to be hunted, killed, or captured by any person, except under Special License.

- 1. Giraffe.
- 2. Mountain Zebra.
- 3. Wild Ass.
- 4. White-tailed Gnu (Connochoetes gnu).
- 5. Buffalo.
- 6. Eland (Taurotragus).
- 7. Elephant (female or young).
- 8. Vulture (any species).
- 9. Secretary-bird.
- 10. Owl (any species).
- Rhinoceros-bird or Beef-eater (Buphaga), any species.
- 12. Ostrich (female or young).

<sup>&#</sup>x27; These Schedules may contain the names of some species or varieties not found, or only occasionally found, in East Africa.

## SECOND SCHEDULE.

Animals the females of which are not to be hunted, killed, or captured, when accompanied by their young, and the young of which are not to be captured except under Special License.

- 1. Rhinoceros.
- 2. Hippopotamus.
- 3. Zebra (other than the Mountain Zebra).
- 4. Chevrotain (Dorcatherium).
- All Antelopes or Gazelles not mentioned in the first Schedule.

## THIRD SCHEDULE.

Animals limited numbers of which may be killed or captured under a Sportsman's or Public Officer's License.

EIMD.	1	LLOWER LLOWER
I. Elephant (male)	•••	2
2. Rhinoceros	•••	2
3. Hippopotamus	•••	2
4. Zebra (other than the Mountain Zebra)	•••	2
5. Antelopes and Gazelles—		
Class A—		
Oryx (Gemsbuck Colotis or Beisa)	•••	2
Hippotragus (Sable or Roan)	•••	2
Strepsiceros (Kudu)	•••	2
6. Colobi and other fur Monkeys	•••	2
7. Aard-varks (Orycteropus)	•••	2
8. Serval	•••	2
9. Cheetah (Cynælurus)	•••	2
10. Aard-wolf (Proteles)	•••	2
11. Smaller Monkeys of each species	•••	2
12. Ostrich (male only)	•••	2
13. Marabous	•••	2
14. Egret	•••	2
15. Antelopes and Gazelles	•••	2
Class B—		
Any species other than those in Class A		10

## GAME REGULATIONS

## 307

5 animals in all

in any calen-

dar month,

made up of

animals of a

single species

or of several.

KIMD.				NUMBER ALLOWED.	
16. Chevrotains (Dorcatherium)	•••	•••		. 10	
17. Wild Pig, of each species					
18. Smaller Cats	•••	•••		. 10	
19. Jackal					
FOURTH SCHE  Animals limited numbers of which winder a Settler's I	may l	be ki		•	:d
EDID.				MBER OF LS ALLOWE	æ.
1. Hippopotamus			•••	2	
2. (i) Warthog (Phacochoerus) .				10	
(ii) Bush Pig (Sus Chaeropatam					
(iii) Senar Swine (Sus Senaarens	nis)	• •••	•••	10	
3. The following Antelopes and Gaz	elles (	only-	-		
(i) Grant's Gazelle		Ì			

(vi) Duiker (Cephalophus) ••• ••• (vii) Klipspringer (Oreotragus) (viii) Steinbuck (Rhaphiceros) ... ... (ix) Waterbuck (Cobus) ... ... ... (x) Wildebeest (Gnu) (Connochoetes)

(except the White-tailed species)

(ii) Thomson's Gazelle ... ... ... (iii) Hartebeest (Bubalis and Damaliscus)

(iv) Impala (Æpyceros) ... ... ...

(v) Reedbuck (Cervicapra) ... ...

## FIFTH SCHEDULE.

## Game Reserve.

The areas bounded as follows:-

I. An area bounded by

1. The North-Eastern limit of the Uganda

Railway Zone from the Tsavo River to the Athi River.

- 2. By the left bank of the Stony Athi River from the point where it is crossed by the Uganda Railway to the point intersecting a line drawn from the summit of Donyo Sabuk to the summit of Kijabi Peak.
- 3. By a line drawn from the summit of Donyo Sabuk through the summit of Kijabi Peak to its point of intersection by the Eastern boundary of the Uganda Protectorate.
- 4. By the Eastern boundary of the Uganda Protectorate from the last-named point to its point of intersection by the frontier of the German East Africa Protectorate.
- 5. By the Anglo-German frontier from its point of intersection by the Uganda Protectorate boundary to the point where it is intersected by the Southern boundary of the Masailand district.
- 6. By a line drawn from the last-named point to the source of the Tsavo River.
- 7. By the left bank of the Tsavo River from its source to its intersection by the Uganda Railway.

#### II. An area bounded

On the north by the 3rd parallel of latitude.
On the east by the 39th meridian of longitude.
On the south by the northern boundary of the Kenya District of the Province of Ukamba.

On the west by the boundary between the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.

#### SIXTH SCHEDULE.

No. 1.—Sportsman's License (Fee 750 rupees) or Public Officer's License (Fee 150 rupees).

A. B., of , is hereby licensed to hunt, kill, or capture wild animals within the East African Protectorate for one year from the date hereof, but subject to the provisions and restrictions of "The Game Regulations 1900."

The said A. B. is authorised, subject to the said Regulations, to kill or capture the following animals in addition to the number of the same species allowed by the Regulations, that is to say:—

Fee paid, rupees

Dated this day of , 1900.

(Signed)

Commissioner (or Collector).

No. 2.—Settler's Game License (Fee 150 rupees).

C. D., of , is hereby licensed to hunt, kill, or capture wild animals within the district of the East African Protectorate for one year from the date hereof but subject to the provisions and restrictions to "The Game Regulations 1900."

Dated this day of

(Signed)

Commissioner (or Collector).

### SEVENTH SCHEDULE.

# Game Register.

Species.	Number.	Sex.	Locality.	Date.	Remarks.
	i				

I declare that the above is a true record of all animals killed by me in the Protectorate under the License granted me on the , 190.

Passed

190 .

(Signature of examining officer.)

#### PROCLAMATION.

In virtue of the authority conferred upon me by Article II of the East Africa Game Regulations 1900, I hereby proclaim, with the sanction of His Majesty's Secretary of State, that the area comprised within a circle drawn at a radius of ten miles from the Government buildings at Fort Smith shall henceforth cease to be Game Reserve.

C. ELIOT.

H.B.M. Com. & Consul-General.

ZANZIBAR, January 16, 1901.

## NOTICE.

## THE EAST AFRICA GAME REGULATIONS 1900.

In accordance with the conditions contained in the second part or Clause No. 13 of the above Regulations, I hereby give notice that, upon the application of any Sportsman or Public Officer holding licenses to shoot game, permission may be granted to shoot or capture additional animals as follows, and additional fees as noted must be paid in respect thereof:—

2 Rhino	additional fees	Rs.	75	each
I Elephant	<b>&gt;</b> >	,,	250	,,
2 Zebra	"	,,	30	,,
2 Wildebeest and				
2 Waterbuck	,,	,,	30	,,
Antelope under			_	
Class A in the				
third Schedule				
r of each	"	"	45	,,
Under Class B ex-				
cept Wildebeest				
and Waterbuck				
10 additional	"	,,	20	"

C. ELIOT.

H.B.M. Com. & Consul-General.

MOMBASA, April 10, 1901.

#### NOTICE.

Every holder of a license under the Game Regulations 1900 is hereby required to produce or send, at the end of each calendar year, to the Collector of the district in which he resides the register of the animals killed or captured by him during that year. Should any license holder omit to so produce his register before January 15th of each year, his license may be revoked and any further license may be refused him.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

April 15, 1901.

## NOTICE.

It is hereby notified, under section 5 of the Game Regulations 1900, that the Rhinoceros-bird or Beefeater (Buphagu) is removed from the list of animals mentioned in the first Schedule of these Regulations.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Com. & Consul-General. MOMBASA, September 7, 1901.

#### NOTICE.

Until further notice it is hereby ordered that the antelope HIPPOTRAGUS EQUINUS known as the Roan be placed in the first Schedule of the Game Regulations among the animals not to be hunted, killed, or captured by any person except under special license.

C. ELIOT,

H.M. Com. & Consul-General.

January 12, 1902.

#### NOTICE.

# UNDER THE EAST AFRICA GAME REGULA-TIONS 1900.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the East Africa Game Regulations 1900 I hereby give Notice that upon the application of any person holding a Sportsman's or Public Officer's License to shoot game a Special License may be granted by the Sub-Commissioner of a Province authorising such person to hunt, kill, or capture any of the following animals:—

1 Bull Buffalo. 1 Bull Eland. 1 Bull Giraffe.

Provided that no license to kill a buffalo in the Province of Ukamba shall be granted.

The fee payable for such Special License is seventy-five rupees (Rs. 75) in respect of each animal. All fees are payable in advance and, in the event of no animal being shot under a Special License a refund will be made to the Licensee.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

May 7, 1902.

## PROCLAMATION.

## NOTICE AS TO ALTERATION OF GAME RESERVE.

In virtue of the authority conferred upon me by Article 11 of the East Africa Game Regulations 1900 and with the sanction of His Majesty's Secretary of State, I hereby proclaim that so much of the first area described in the fifth Schedule to the said Regulations as lies to the North of the Uganda Railway Zone shall henceforth cease to be a game reserve.

F. J. JACKSON.

Acting Commissioner.

MOMBASA, July 17, 1902.

#### AN ORDINANCE.

Enacted by His Britannic Majesty's Commissioner for the East Africa Protectorate.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

### PRESERVATION OF GAME.

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- 1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Game Ordinance 1903," and shall be read as one with "The East Africa Game Regulations 1900" (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations).
- 2. Any person who is found in possession of any cow ivory shall, unless he prove that the ivory was not obtained in breach of the Regulations, be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 1,000 rupees or to two months' imprisonment of either kind, or to both, and the ivory shall be forseited.
- 3 (1).—Ostrich eggs or heads, bones, skins, feathers, or flesh of any non-domesticated animals mentioned in the Schedules to the Regulations may be sold in the following cases, and under the following conditions:—
- (a) If they form part of the estate of a deceased person, by the administrator-general or person representative of such deceased person with the consent of the Court granting probate or administration, and on payment to the Court of a fee of 20 rupees.
- (b) If they have been forfeited by the order of the Commissioner.
- (2) The purchaser shall in each case be given a certificate authorising the sale and specifying the articles to be sold, and the certificate shall be evidence that the purchaser has not obtained the goods in contravention of the Regulations.

- 4. Ostrich eggs or heads, bones, skins, feathers, or flesh of any non-domesticated animals mentioned in the Schedules to the Regulations shall be liable to forfeiture if they have been obtained in contravention of the Regulations.
- 5. The Commissioner may in special cases grant, at a fee of 150 rupees, a sportsman's license to a person entitled to take out a settler's license.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

MOMBASA, April 24, 1903.

## PROCLAMATION.

# UNDER THE EAST AFRICA GAME REGULA-TIONS 1900.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the East Africa Game Regulations 1900 I hereby declare that the Greater Kudu is transferred to and included in Schedule I. of the aforesaid Regulations and that this declaration shall apply to the District of Baringo only. And I further declare that the following animals are transferred to and included in Schedule III. Class A. of the aforesaid Regulations:—

Topi (Damaliscus Jimela). Neumann's Hartebeest (Bubalis Neumann.)

Provided that in Jubaland the Topi may be shot as heretofore. And I further declare that the following animals are added to and included in Schedule IV. Class 3 of the aforesaid Regulations:—

Bushbuck (Tragelaphus Roualeyni). Paa (Madoqua and Nesotragus).

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

May 7, 1903.

## PROCLAMATION.

#### GAME RESERVE.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the East Africa Game Regulations 1900 and with the approval of His Majesty's Secretary of State, I hereby declare the following area to be a Game Reserve within the meaning of the aforesaid Regulations:—The boundary of the said Game Reserve shall start from the mouth of the River Weiwei or Turkwell where that river enters Lake Rudolph and shall follow the coast of Lake Rudolph southwards until it reaches the south-easternmost point of the Lake. From this point the boundary shall be carried south-eastwards, to the western flank of Mount Nyiro and thence shall continue southwards along the Western face of the Likipia Escarpment until it reaches the source of the small stream which flows into the north-easternmost Gulf of Lake Baringo. Following this stream, down stream, the boundary of the said Game Reserve shall continue along the North Coast of Lake Baringo and shall thence be drawn north-westwards to the western source of the

River Oron in the Kamasia Mountains. From this point the boundary shall be carried in a north-westerly direction along the northern flanks of the Kamasia and Elgeyo Plateaux till it reaches the right bank of the River Weiwei or Turkwell and thence shall follow the right bank of the Weiwei or Turkwell down stream to where the said river enters Lake Rudolph.

The aforesaid area shall be known as the Sugota Game Reserve.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

MOMBASA, May 13, 1903.

### PROCLAMATION.

I hereby declare that civet and other small cats are removed from the list of animals in Schedule III. of "The East Africa Game Regulations 1900," and I further declare that the proclamation shall apply to the island of Mombasa only.

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

MOMBASA, July 15, 1903.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

#### AN ORDINANCE

Enacted by His Britannic Majesty's Commissioner East Africa Protectorate.

D. STEWART, H.M. Commissioner.

MOMBASA, August 2, 1904.

## No. 11 OF 1904.

#### GAME.

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- I. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Game Ordinance 1904," and shall be read as one with "The East Africa Game Regulations 1900," hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulations.
- 2. (I).—An occupier of land may take out a landLandbolder's game license for the sum of
  45 rupees, and may also take out a
  similar license at the same fee for any person permanently employed by him in connection with the
  land.
- (2) The license shall only permit game to be hunted, killed, or captured on land in the occupation of the holder of the license or of his employer.
- (3) The license shall not authorise animals mentioned in the first Schedule or the females or young of animals mentioned in the second Schedule to the principal Regulations to be hunted, killed, or captured.
- (4) The license will permit the animals mentioned in the third and fourth Schedules to the principal Regulations to be hunted, killed, or captured, and the limitation on the number of animals to be hunted, killed, or captured therein contained will not apply.
- (5) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the holder of a landholder's game license will be

subject in all respects to the provisions of the principal Regulations.

- 3. Where a person holding a landholder's game license holds also a settler's license, animals killed or captured on his own land under his landholder's license, shall not count towards the number of animals he is entitled to kill under his settler's license.
- 4. The Commissioner may, in special cases, grant, at a fee of 150 rupees, a sportsman's license to a person entitled to take out a settler's license, but such license shall be deemed to have been issued under the principal Regulations.
- 5. No more than one fourteen-days' license shall

  Issue of fourteen-day
  license to public officer between the 31st March of one year and the 31st March of the next year.
- 6.—(1) All licenses issued under this Ordinance or under the principal Regulations shall expire on the 31st day of March next after the date of issue.
- (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to licenses now in force, nor to fourteen-day licenses issued to a public officer.
- (3) The Commissioner may, on the expiration of licenses now in force, issue to the holders thereof, if they desire to renew their licenses, temporary licenses of the same class expiring on 31st March, at such fees and with liberty to hunt, kill, or capture such number of animals mentioned in the third and fourth Schedules as the Commissioner may think fit.

- 7.—(I) Ostrich eggs, heads, horns, bones, skins, Sale of trophles feathers, or flesh of any non-domesticated animals mentioned in the Schedules to the principal Regulations may be sold in the following cases and under the following conditions:—
- (a) If they form part of the estate of a deceased person, by the Administrator-General or personal representative of such deceased person, with the consent of the Court granting probate or administration, and on payment of such fee as the Court directs, not exceeding 20 rupees;
- (b) If they have been forfeited, by the order of the Commissioner or of the Court by which they have been declared to be forfeited.
- (2) The purchaser shall in each case be given a certificate specifying the articles and declaring that they have been lawfully sold under the provisions of this Ordinance, and such certificate shall be evidence that the purchaser has not obtained the goods in contravention of the principal Regulations.
- 8. Any person who is found in possession of any Possession of cow ivory shall, unless he prove that the cow ivory illegal ivory was not obtained in breach of the principal Regulations, be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.
- 9. The Commissioner may by Proclamation remove any animals from any of the move any animals from any of the Schedules.

  Schedules to the principal Regulations. Such Proclamation may apply to the whole of the Protectorate, or to any province, district, or other area.

- 10. The Schedules annexed to this Ordinance shall be substituted for the third and fourth Schedules to the principal Regulations.
- animal mentioned in the Schedules to the principal Regulations spoiling his crops or doing damage to his holding, may kill the same if such act is necessary for the protection of his crop or holding, but he shall give notice thereof to the Collector of the district without delay, and the head horns, tusks, and skin shall be the property of His Majesty, and shall be dealt with as the Collector may direct.
- 12. Animals mentioned in the Schedules to the Game killed on principal Regulations killed or captured private land. by the holder of a license under the principal Regulations upon private land, at the invitation of the occupier, shall not count towards the number of animals that person is entitled to kill under his license.
- To shoot on private land person must be licensed. Schedules to the principal Regulations on private land in the occupation of another person other than his employer unless he is the holder of a license under the principal Regulations.
- Ordinance, or guilty of an offence against this Ordinance, shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence against the principal Regulations.

- 15. The Commissioner may by rule prescribe the forms of licenses issued under the provisions of this Ordinance.
- 16. The following enactments are hereby repealed to the extent mentioned in the column:—

Bast Africa Game Regulations 1900.	No. 30 of 1900	Section 12. The words "Every license shall be in force for one year only from the date of issue." Third Schedule. Fourth Schedule.
Game Ordinance 1903.	No. 4 of 1903	The whole Ordinance.

D. STEWART.

H.M. Commissioner.

MOMBASA, August 2, 1904.

## SCHEDULES.

## THIRD SCHEDULE.

Animals limited numbers of which may be killed or captured under a Sportsman's or Public Officer's License.

EIND.	N AL	UMBER LOWED.
1. Elephant (male)	•••	2
2. Rhinoceros	•••	2
3. Hippopotamus	•••	2
4. Zebras (other than the Mountain Zebra)	•••	2
5. Antelopes and Gazelles—		
Class A—		
Oryx (Gemsbuck Calotis or Beisa)	•••	2
Hippotragus (Sable or Roan)	•••	2
Strepsiceros (Kudu)	•••	2

KIND.		NUMBER ALLOWED.
6. Colobi and other fur Monkeys		. 2
7. Aard-varks (Orycteropus)		. 2
8. Serval		. 2
9. Cheetah (Cynælurus)		. 2
10. Aard-wolf (Proteles)		. 2
11. Ostrich (male only)		. 2
12. Marabout		. 2
13. Egret		. 2
14. Antelopes and Gazelles—		
Class B—		
Any species other than those in Class	Α	. 10
15. Chevrotains (Dorcatherium)		

# FOURTH SCHEDULE.

Animals limited numbers of which may be killed or captured under a Settler's License.

KIND.	NUMBER OF ANIMALS ALLOWED.
1. Hippopotamus 2. The following Antelopes and Gazelles only (i) Grant's Gazelle (ii) Thomson's Gazelle (iii) Hartebeest (Bubalis and Damaliscus) (v) Impala (Epyceros) (v) Reedbuck (Cervicapra) (vi) Duiker (Cephalophus) (vii) Klipspringer (Oreotragus) (viii) Steinbuck (Rhaphiceros) (ix) Waterbuck (Cobus) (x) Wildebeest (Gnu), Connochoeles (except the whitetailed species)	2 3 animals in all in any calendar month, made up of animals of a single species or of several; provided, however, that not more than 10 animals altogether of any one species shall be killed during the period for which the license is available other than Grant's Gazelle, Thomson's Gazelle, and Hartebeest (Bubalis and Damaliscus).
3. Oct vat	~

## PROCLAMATION.

I hereby declare that smaller monkeys, excepting colobi, smaller cats, wild pigs of all species, and jackals, are removed from the list of animals in the Schedules of the "East Africa Game Regulations 1900."

C. ELIOT.

H.M. Commissioner.

NAIROBI, January 29, 1904.

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